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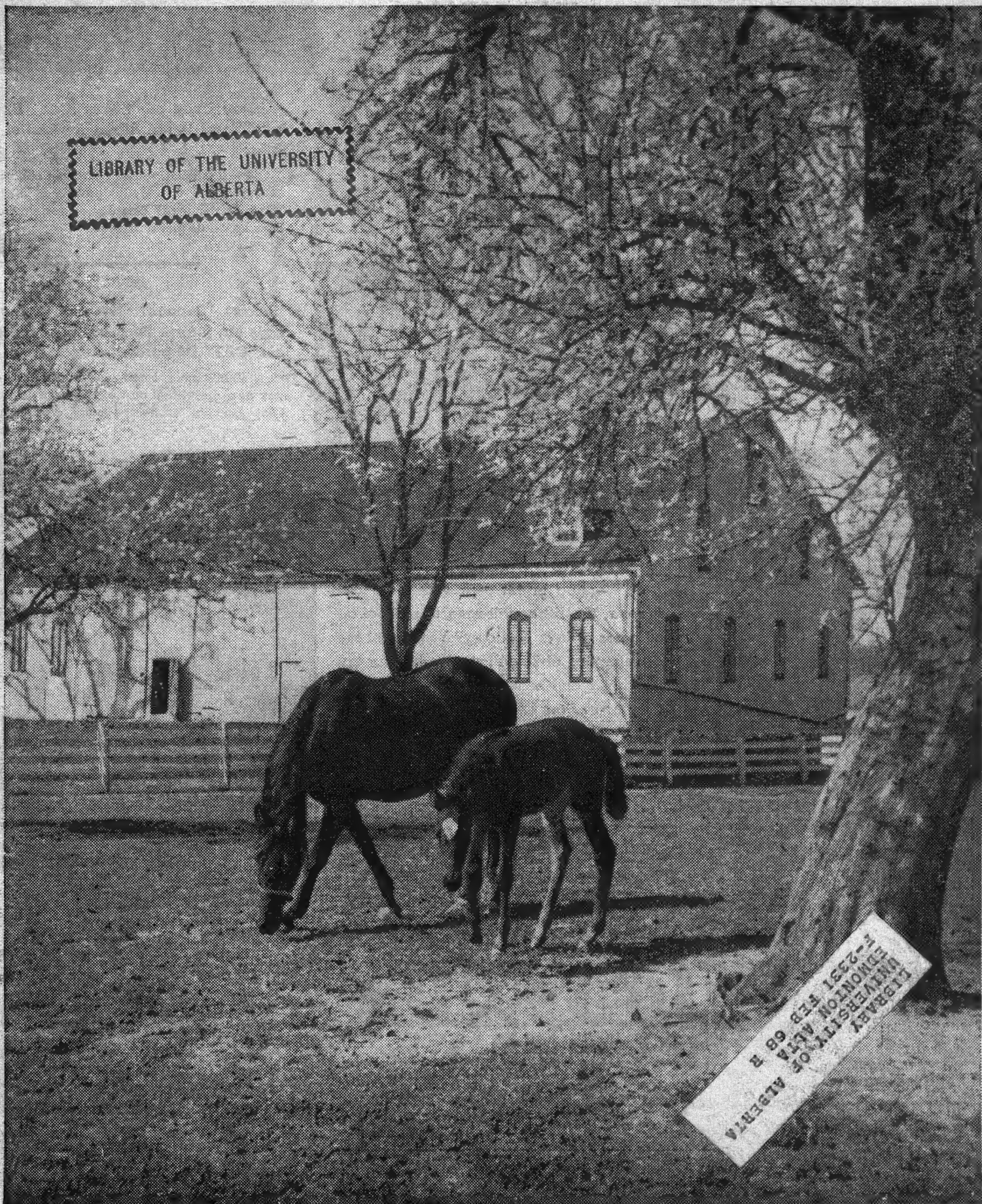
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Farm and Ranch REVIEW

JUNE, 1953

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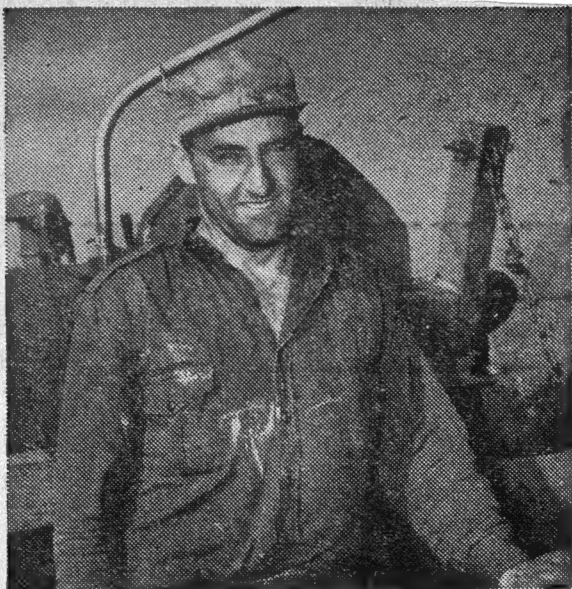
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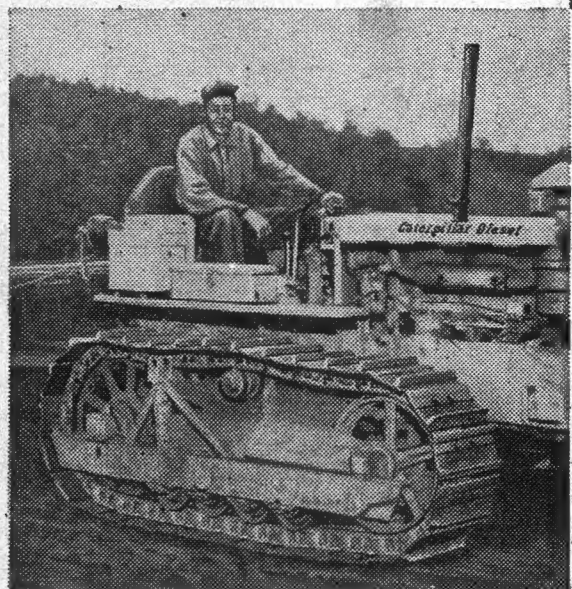


(Above) "You can't beat 'CAT' D2 economy!" asserts Mr. Albert Anderst of Hilda, Alta.:

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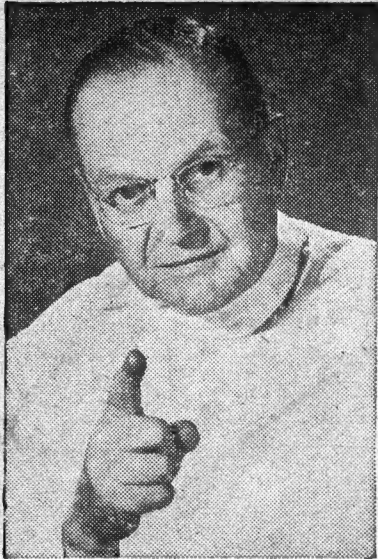
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Stampede Buckers



Photo by Richard Harrington.

The Farm and Ranch Review

Graphic Arts Bldg., Calgary, Alberta

Vol. XLIX

Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson

No. 6

James I. Gray, Editor

P. Peterson, Advertising Manager

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Blade cultivator operation

A NEW publication entitled "Blade Cultivators — Their Operation and Adjustment" is available to farmers by writing to the Information Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. This pamphlet is simply written, freely illustrated and will prove of considerable use to any farmer operating a blade cultivator. In the pamphlet J. G. Kemp, of the Swift Current Experimental Station, gives the

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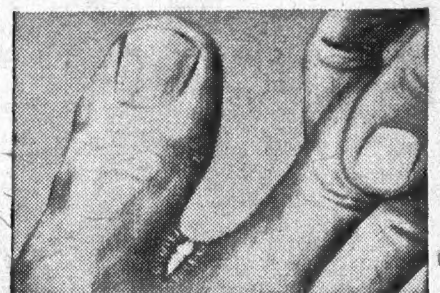
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How to get relief



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"We can't do that either, son. If we did, this country could use only about 10 per cent of the nickel we produce. There's another reason too. We bring in a lot of things we need from other lands—things like cotton, oranges, china, tea and coffee. The nickel we export helps provide the money to pay for these things."



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The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

**In the coming election let's all
concentrate on main issues**

BETWEEN now and election day, the people of Western Canada will have plenty of time in which to make up their minds as to how they will vote. In the process, we hope they will keep one subject foremost in their minds — how can they serve their own best interests. If they do that, we are convinced that Western Canada will have the largest representation ever in the Liberal Government of Prime Minister St. Laurent.

From time to time, we will do our best to document the case. Meanwhile two points in particular are of paramount interest — the qualities of leadership and personal integrity of Prime Minister St. Laurent and the record of the Liberal Government on farm issues.

There is no doubt in our mind that Mr. St. Laurent will go down in history as one of our greatest native sons. If he had been made of the same stuff as so many business men and lawyers, he would never have entered politics. He'd have brought one of the keenest minds in his profession to the practice of law and have become a wealthy corporation lawyer. Instead, when he was just beginning to hit his professional stride, he was drafted to serve this country in a time of terrible crisis.

Then, when the war was over, the leadership of the Liberal party was thrust upon him. He complained that he had no talent for politics, wanted only to get out of politics and back to his profession. But in the end he was persuaded to accept the task of leading the country through the difficult years of post-war reconstruction.

It is true that he has no talent for politics. That is something that gives party wheel-horses in Ottawa cause for sleepless nights. But Mr. St. Laurent has something more, something much finer than political talents — a great character, an obvious integrity, a rugged honesty and deep sense of patriotism that has won the respect of the people of Canada.

It has done more than that. It has enabled him to gather around him and hold onto men who are a collective ornament to politics.

It is the personal integrity of Mr. St. Laurent and his cabinet colleagues that provide the rock on which picayune opposition charges of graft and corruption founder and disintegrate. He towers head and shoulders above all the other party leaders and Canadians know, in their hearts, that Louis St. Laurent is the sort of man they want most of all to be premier of their country.

In the years since the war, not many papers have been as out-spoken in their criticism of various Liberal policies as the Farm and Ranch. We have been critical of various fiscal policies that seemed to us to act as deterrents to the development of the country. But there is one place in which the Liberals have been outstanding and that is in the service they have rendered to the farmers of Western Canada.

The great thing about the Liberal party, in this connection, has been its ability to learn from experience. It is no longer the laissez-faire party that was elected in 1935. It has made a full circle to a point where it is the foremost champion of the only kind of marketing system Prairie Farmers will tolerate — the Wheat Board system.

It not only fathered the Wheat Board in its present form, it has worked mightily to make the board the real success that it is. It has brought a decade of unparalleled prosperity to Western Canada. In the last 10 years farmers have been able to reduce their mortgage debt to manageable proportions, they have re-equipped their farms with the best machinery money can buy. Never before have they had it so good.

All this will make a mockery out of the slogan sure to be dusted off by the Conservative opposition — "It's time for a

The facts about the elevator strike

(From the Calgary Herald)

THE reasoned and, in our view, unanswerable statement issued by Ben S. Plumer, of the Alberta Wheat Pool, on the protracted elevator strike in Vancouver has one outstanding merit: it will serve to dispose once and for all of the fatuous nonsense peddled by J. L. Phelps of the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union, and by various sentimentalists of the C.C.F., to the effect that the farmers interests and the interests of big labor are somehow identical.

Mr. Phelps, as our readers may recall, actually argued in the early stages of this disruptive strike that the sympathies of the farmer were all with the grain-handlers. Mr. Plumer, on the other hand, coldly points out that the increased wages (and therefore the increased costs of elevator operating) resulting from the settlement of this strike will come straight out of the farmer's pocket. It will not come from the "profits" of the elevator companies, because where the elevators are owned by the pools, there are no profits. The "profits" are in fact savings which in one way or another go back to the farmer who markets his grain through his pool.

Mr. Plumer complained that the farmers had been forced to give in on this strike "because of pressure from the federal government and the urgent need of heavy export movement of grain. Farmers might be interested to know that in the discussions in the House of Commons on this strike issue, to my knowledge not a single word of sympathy or support was extended by . . . any political party to the grain producers. This would lead us to the conclusion that organized labor has far greater political power than the farm people."

We may leave Mr. Plumer with his reflections on the extent to which our politicians are disposed to prostrate themselves before the golden calf of the labor vote — reflections in which he is by no means alone. Of more urgent moment, perhaps, is the concern he expressed over the fact that such a small group of men (i.e., the grain handlers) can tie up the whole economy of Western Canada in pursuit of their wage demands. Mr. Plumer was a good deal more polite about this process than we are inclined to be. To our mind, this strike — like the earlier one at the lakehead — was nothing more or less than blackmail, not against the farmer alone but against the entire nation, whose prosperity continues to rest largely on the foundation of its wheat exports.

change." Is it? A change to what? The only change possible in the way we market our wheat is back to the open futures market. Naturally, those who want to go back to the boom and bust system should vote for the party that most loudly hollers for a change.

In many respects, the times which we are entering are as critical as the times through which we have passed. In the United States the protectionist elements are flexing their muscles in the Republican party. President Eisenhower is resisting them and so are many members of his cabinet. Yet even so there have been some restrictions imposed upon imports from Canada and other countries.

Despite the provocation, this is no time for another tariff war. This is surely no time to start raising Canadian tariffs in retaliation against American restrictions. It is a time for cool heads, for the exercise of wisdom and restraint, for the dedication to the goal of freeing the channels of world trade instead of raising blockades. Here again we have the record of the Liberal party upon which we can count. It hasn't gone as far toward reciprocity as western Canadians would like. But it has kept its eye on the main goal and it has resisted agitation from the industrial east to raise tariffs and impose restrictions.

Its stand here will cost it some seats in Ontario. That is conceded now. But if it can gain some seats in the West, and we are sure it can, the power of the West will be greater inside the party than it is today.

So for the people of Western Canada the choice should be clear — they can vote for the party that has served prairie farmers better than any other in history, and elect a government that under the leadership of Mr. St. Laurent, will be worthy of our country and our people.

★

Sorry, we had our facts twisted

OUR editorial in the April issue on the defects of our educational system contained two errors in fact, both of which we would like to correct. Relying on newspaper reports, we quoted Dr. W. H. Swift, deputy minister of education of Alberta, to the effect that educational standards were being reduced in order to enable students to make a better showing.

Dr. Swift has written that this was an unfair and inaccurate summary of his speech. He was dealing only with two subjects, not with the educational system generally. He said that less time would be devoted to English in order that more time would be devoted to mathematics. We have offered Dr. Swift adequate space in our columns to correct whatever false impression had been created. (See page 7.)

The other error was in connection with the statement that Alberta students who graduate from our high schools will not be eligible to enroll in outside universities. This statement was based on a news report of last year in which a prominent officer of the Home and School Association quoted an educational department officer to that effect. This official denied that he had made such a flat statement and we missed the denial.

The facts here seem to be these: We will not know until 1954, when the first

(Continued on page 6)

Farm and Ranch Editorials

Wheat prices and bread prices

TWO things need saying in connection with the recent decision of the Government to advance the price of domestic wheat to the new I.W.A. maximum price.

The extra 20 cents a bushel on the 50-odd million bushels of wheat eaten by Canadian consumers will be welcome by prairie farmers. But however welcome, this boost in price does not bring the selling practice into conformity with the principle which the Farm and Ranch has advocated for so long. Domestic wheat sales should not be at the I.W.A. ceiling at all, but at the class 2 price. True, at the moment, the difference is not great, but that does not alter the fact that it is wrong to sell wheat for domestic consumption at the I.W.A. ceiling.

The I.W.A. price is a special price granted to signators of the International Wheat Agreement in return for their contracting to buy certain quotas of wheat at a minimum price of \$1.55. In return for their acceptance of the floor principle, the exporting nations agree to supply them certain quotas of wheat at the ceiling price of \$2.05. Wheat sold outside the agreement, above the quotas agreed to in the contract, carries a higher price, the class 2 price.

Canadian millers are not party to the agreement. They have not undertaken to buy any quantities of wheat at the floor price. They are not entitled to be supplied with wheat at the I.W.A. ceiling.

The second point is just as important. When the change in price was announced, Canadian newspapers were interested in only one thing — what happens to the price of bread. Naturally, the price of bread will go up. When the price of wheat goes down, as it did as a result of the decline in the American dollar, the price of bread goes up. So when the price of wheat rises, the price of bread also goes up.

And, naturally too, the price of bread will go up a lot more than the extra cost of the wheat involved in making the flour that makes the bread. The bakers quoted by newspapers chose the nice round figure of a cent a loaf as the likely increase. But

(Continued from page 5)

graduates under the new system try to enroll, whether or not they will be qualified to enter other Canadian universities; and the Alberta department of education confidently expects that they will be acceptable. The Farm and Ranch deeply regrets any embarrassment it may have caused Alberta parents of high school students for these inaccuracies.

At the same time, we do not feel that either of these errors in any way invalidates the argument we have made in these columns — that there is something radically wrong with our whole educational system. Evidence of that can be seen everywhere, particularly in the volume of letters to the editors of newspapers in both Saskatchewan and Manitoba in which strong objection is taken to the system.

as Wheat Pool leaders point out, the extra cost to the bakers will be less than half a cent a loaf. As it is, only about 16 cents out of every dollar the consumer pays for bread goes to the farmer for the wheat it contains. The rest of the money goes to the millers and bakers to pay operating costs and wages to the hired help. It would have taken a 45-cent-a-bushel increase in the price of wheat to justify a full cent increase in the price of a loaf of bread.

We have here in a nutshell the whole story of the high cost of living. Wages have gone up and up. Everybody complains because his costs have risen. Everybody complains because his increased wages are somehow swallowed up by increased prices. And, when they look around for somebody to blame they always light on the farmer,

Stevenson on politics

"FOR years I have listened to the nauseous nonsense, the pie-in-the-sky appeals to cupidity and greed, the cynical trifling with passion and prejudice and fear, the slander, the fraudulent promises, and the 'all things to all men' demagoguery that are too much a part of our political campaigns. Sometimes in the deafening clamour of political salesmanship I have thought that the people might be better served if a party purchased a half hour of radio and TV silence, during which the people would be asked to think quietly for themselves. Politicians all applaud and support public education as democracy's great monument and cornerstone, but does the politician, the agent and spokesman of democracy, have no responsibility for public education?

"Democracy, government by the consent of the governed, is the most difficult system of all because it depends for its success and viability on the good judgments and decisions of so many of us. But judgment and decision depend on information and understanding. In matters of public policy, candidates then have the greatest responsibility of all, to inform truthfully so that the people will understand and will have the tools of good judgment and wise decision. One can argue, indeed, that candidates claiming the people's confidence have an even higher mission, honestly to help them to know, as St. Thomas Aquinas said, 'what he ought to believe, to know what he ought to desire, to know what he ought to do.'"

"Believing utterly in democracy and collective reason of properly informed people, I have always thought that political campaigns for office of great responsibility are both an opportunity and an obligation to talk sensibly and truthfully about public questions and their full implications."

whose prices have gone up less than anybody's wages; but whose costs are loaded with everybody else's wage increases. Nor is that all. When primary prices drop, as meat prices have dropped, the prices to consumers do not come down in proportion. The difference in prices is absorbed by the middlemen and their employees down the line between the producer and the consumer.

★

A salute to Jimmy Gardiner

THE one quality which we admire most in the Rt. Hon. Jimmy Gardiner is this — he never gives up and he never let's go of anything once he gets his teeth into it.

When the Royal Commission on the South Saskatchewan River brought in its completely adverse report, we, like a lot of other people, said: "Well, that disposes of that" — and turned our attention to other matters. But not the minister of agriculture. To him, this report was just another minor obstacle on the road to the fulfilment of a dream. And he treated it as such.

Watching him through the years, we have come to the conclusion that he doesn't really start to fight until the fight is almost lost. Then he takes off his coat, rolls up his sleeves and wades in with all the confidence in the world. And in the end he somehow always manages to emerge with what he went after very firmly clutched in his hands.

All this naturally has made him a host of enemies. He has never been particularly reluctant to make enemies. There were times, during the war years, when he waged a single-handed war against the brain trusters who sought to keep their price ceiling on agricultural products. He lost a lot of skirmishes to them, and won all his major campaigns. So embittered did many of them become that some of their cabinet friends chortled with glee when the C.C.F. gained power in Saskatchewan. It would, they said, finally get rid of Jimmy Gardiner.

But they have gone to their judicial and senatorial rewards, and Mr. Gardiner is still a great power for the good of the farmers in this country. We wouldn't bet our interest in a Social Credit dividend that he won't ultimately get the South Saskatchewan River dam built. What he wants, he usually gets and with him the impossible only takes a little longer.

One of the weaknesses of farm people is that they tend to take things for granted. They expect people who serve them to provide outstanding service as a matter of course. That happens consistently. But it seems to us that we ought to take time out occasionally to be genuinely grateful to men like Mr. Gardiner who have devoted a lifetime to battling the farmers' battles. Certainly he has proven himself to be our outstanding champion. We may be baffled by his courage, by his indomitable refusal to give up even when faced with insurmountable obstacles, but the time is long overdue for the farmers of the West to give Mr. Gardiner a full measure of the recognition he deserves.

Here's the official reply to our educational editorial

To the Editor :

"Your April editorial on education resulted in a number of inquiries to this department. In addition it was brought forward by a delegate at the May convention of the Alberta Home and School Federation where I made the following statement :

STATEMENT RE UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE — H. & S. CONVENTION

Edmonton, May 7, 1953

The editorial includes the following statement:

"No other Canadian University will henceforth permit graduates to enroll from Alberta high schools."

I wish to make some observations regarding this matter. First may I say that I have written the editor of the magazine and asked him for the authority behind his statement.

We in the Department have no knowledge of any justification for it.

The following information is given by way of clarification:

1. When the new matriculation proposals and the high school course adjustments related thereto were before the joint committee of fourteen which devised them the question was asked as to what effect they might have on admission to other universities. No one could, of course, give an authoritative answer on the point but the opinion was expressed by one or more of the university representatives that no serious results, if any, would ensue.

2. In any event it was our view, and still is, that the benefits accruing to matriculating students in Alberta, and non-matriculating students of the high schools, especially in relation to the mathematics situation, were such that we should not be influenced by the possible inconvenience of a few students who might choose to go elsewhere and who might have a specific deficiency in relation to some particular course in some university.

3. At the present time Ontario and British Columbia, to whose universities most of our students go who leave Alberta, have a Grade XIII in their high schools. Alberta students with Grade XII standing are accepted there as having equivalent standing to their Grade XIII. Even if an Alberta graduate were required to take an additional subject as a prerequisite he would still be far ahead, in point of time spent, of his Ontario or B.C. counterpart. We can hardly hope, in any event, to maintain indefinitely that we can do as well in twelve years what takes them thirteen.

4. We have only one positive statement from another institution. Some Alberta high school student, who had encountered the general statement of alarm wrote to the Ontario Veterinary College at Guelph asking how the new Alberta program would affect his entrance. This college has regular university matriculation requirements. The College wrote us asking

what was the significance of the query. A full statement of what had been done was sent. In reply we were informed that our students hereafter would be accepted if they had a certain combination of subjects, those required hereafter for admission to our own Faculty of Agriculture.

5. Finally I should like to refer to last fall's annual convention of the Canadian Education Association. Dr. Lazerte spoke on high school and university articulation and outlined what had been done in Alberta. He was followed on the program by President Gilmour of McMaster University, who is chairman of the National Council of Canadian Universities. Before beginning his prepared address on another topic he commented on Dr. Lazerte's report. I have no record of what he said, though I have now written to determine whether the Canadian Education Association might have, but I can truthfully say that he sounded no alarm about Alberta's prospective isolation and my recollection is that he used the word "reciprocity" and indicated that it would continue to apply.

I am able now to add that the C.E.A. has no stenographic record of Dr. Gilmour's remarks. I wrote him directly and received from him permission to use further as I wished the part of my statement included under section 5.

W. H. Swift,
Deputy Minister of Education.
Edmonton, Alta.

Canadian Quiz

By GEOFFREY SHAWCROSS

1. Which is the most southerly part of Canada west of the Lake of the Woods?

2. Which province raises more horses than any other in Canada?

3. In what province has the population been steadily declining for years?

4. Which is perhaps our leading university and certainly the best known overseas?

5. What is the temperature of the sea water of Hudson's Bay during the short navigation season?

6. Which prominent person lived in Canada with his mistress and "got away with it"?

7. What is the density of our population?

8. About how many Canadian homes are wired for electrical service?

9. What is the most southerly town of Manitoba?

10. How many bridges and culverts are there on C.P.R. lines?

(Answers on page 36)



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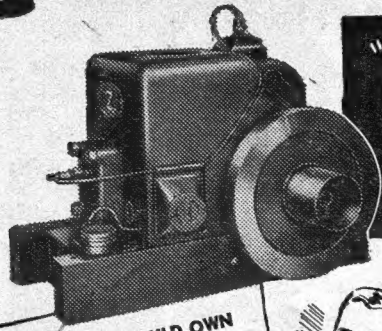
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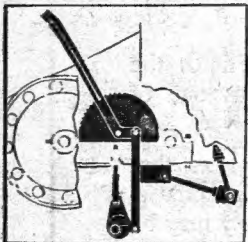
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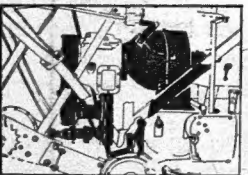
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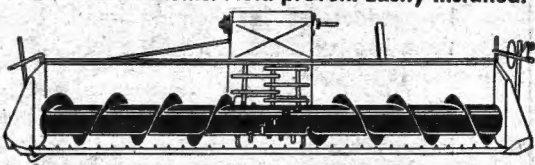
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Let's Do Tricks



Photo by Don Smith.

Prairie weed control from Z to A and back again

By JOSEPH PAUL

HOMESTEADERS in Western Canada had to break 30 acres of land on each quarter section before they could "prove up". It mattered not whether they had the ability or intention of farming the land afterwards. Of course some of those homestead acres were notoriously elastic, even under oath; but many fields were left uncropped or poorly farmed from the time they were broken.

The spread of weeds on this clean prairie land was too conspicuous to escape the notice of settlers. Control by Legislation who intended to remain as farmers.

They had visions of a Utopia where the new land could be kept free of weeds by the simple process of having laws passed requiring their eradication. Everybody had lamb's-quarters right from the start, so it was not considered as a noxious weed. But other weeds were appearing on neglected fields and it looked like good business to prevent them from spreading. Weed control acts were drafted and lists of noxious weeds were established.

These lists have been added to from time to time, until the ones for Manitoba and Saskatchewan now include 29 species. The list for Alberta includes 30 species plus "all members of the mustard family" (there are about 40 kinds of "mustard" in Alberta). The B.C. list names 43 species as noxious and deserves special mention for originality as the only province which classifies lamb's-quarters as a noxious weed, and the only one which does not mention leafy spurge.

The noxious weed lists of all four provinces include such well-known stand-bys as tumbling mustard, Russian thistle,

stink weed, wild mustard, wild oats, perennial sow thistle, Canada thistle, and couch grass. Some of us can remember when it was possible to hand pull the tumbling mustard from a 40-acre field of wheat in a couple of days; and the presence of stink weed or wild oats would not be tolerated on most prairie farms in 1912. It is, therefore, easy to excuse the wishful thinking that sought to keep the country clean by weed control acts. Time has surely proved the futility of legislation against these common plants, but government officials quietly accept the responsibility for the enforcement of the acts.

The common annuals spread rapidly under a farming system which features the production of annual grains. Each district has favored the establishment of one or two annuals which tend to keep other kinds in obscurity. The drought area has the Russian thistle well supported by flaxweed and wild buckwheat. The clay regions are favored by the mustards with wild oats and many other kinds ready to take advantage of special opportunities.

The black soils of the park lands and the gray soils of the wooded districts are supplied with a greater variety of dominant types which change from field to field or from year to year, but wild oats and stinkweed are perhaps the most common ones. The higher rainfall and more varied farming programme of these districts makes it possible for the perennials as sow thistle and Canada thistle to compete as dominant weeds on many farms.

While this natural sorting and distribution of weeds has been taking place, there have



been many changes in the enforcement work under provincial acts. The emphasis has always been on the "eradication" of two or three tardy arrivals which are making a bid for a place in certain districts. These are usually referred to as "new weeds". Thus attention has shifted from the annual weeds to Canada thistle, which in turn yielded its place as public enemy number 1 to the perennial sow thistle.

The battle against perennial sow thistle was a long and costly one in Alberta and Saskatchewan. We were told by the best informed people in the early 1920's, that sow thistle had permanently ruined the best farming districts in Manitoba. In fact there are still some folks who expect to see a half deserted waste land when they make their first visit to the Portage plains.

Land values in Manitoba suffered as a result of that publicity and are just now regaining their proper level in comparison to the other provinces. No doubt there are some experts who are still trying to calculate the cost of the sow thistle to Manitoba farmers; but there are others who are convinced the province is much better off because of the improved farming methods which resulted from the control of this weed.

Campaigns to keep sow thistle out of Alberta and Saskatchewan have been pretty well forgotten, although occasionally some one finds an isolated patch growing in a wet spot of waste land in the drought area; then the fight is on again. Of course everybody knows by now that sow thistle is a pretty complete failure in the drought area, but it still makes a fitting target for enforcement work. In other districts it is too common to cause concern.

In most places attention has

of such chemicals has increased alarmingly in some provinces in recent years. Saskatchewan, for example, used about 30 tons of chlorate per year from 1944 to 48; but increased to over 150 tons in 1949; and used around 225 tons each year since 1950. The chemical was applied at about ½ ton per acre. Thus the amount used in the past 3 years would be enough to stop all growth on 1,350 acres of good land for a period of one or two years, with a strong likelihood of permanent injury to the soil.

At a cost of 10 cents per lb., or \$100.00 per acre, this seems like a hopeless proposition, for the weeds are eluding eradication as usual. Even in districts where the campaign has been most diligent the number of patches of toad flax and leafy spurge increases. The ultimate end of this policy would be the ruination of every acre of land which is left exposed to these weeds. \$100.00 per acre is too big a price to pay. There must be cheaper ways of spoiling good farm land.

The age of weed control by legislation is drawing to a close.

Even the vigorous campaign referred to above has been almost entirely on a voluntary basis, and the emphasis in all provinces has swung to voluntary measures and co-operation. There is an interesting interlude in the present decade which may well go down in history as the age of "weed control by conference."

The series of Western Canada Weed Control Conferences touched off by 2,4-D in 1947, has rolled up a phenomenal record as shown by the table below. Figures are included for a provincial conference held in Regina in 1929 which was probably the biggest meeting of its kind up to that time. Some other figures of relative interest are included.

Weed Control Conference			Western Canada	
Year.	Place.	Attendance.	Estimated area treated with 2,4-D (Thousands of acres)	Average % dockage in wheat.
1929	Regina	119	None	2.19
1947	Regina	142	500	2.34
1948	Winnipeg	309	4,000	2.51
1949	Edmonton	254	8,000	3.17
1950	Regina	195	13,500	2.43
1951	Vancouver	136	11,300	2.13
1952	Winnipeg	535	13,500	Not available

turned to the "eradication" of leafy spurge, Russian knapweed, toad flax, and hoary cress. While certain localities have been found very favorable to tartarian buckwheat and poverty weed, with klamath weed creating a stir in B.C.

Efforts to control these weeds are taking the old-familiar pattern. "Eradication" Spoil the Soil by treating the Campaign patches with sodium chlorate or some other soil sterilizer is still being recommended. In fact, the use

35% of the people attending these conferences have been representatives of government departments, universities, and municipalities. 55% have been representatives of commercial firms. The other 10% has included a few farmers.

If anything can be learned from this table it must be that more weeds are killed by sharp cultivators than by dull conferences. The other method of weed control will be discussed in another article.

(Turn to page 29 for Mr. Paul's poetic footnote.)

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Cattlemen must fight dwarfism or we are heading for trouble

By GRANT MacEWAN

OF the calves being dropped in herds across the country at this season of the year, a few of them will never "grow up". Their bad luck began at the time they were conceived; they inherited some of the wrong genes; their destiny was fixed by hereditary determiners and it was an unhappy destiny.

At birth, those rather hopeless calves may appear all right; in fact, some of them may possess such birth characteristics as will bring unwarranted joy to owners and herdsman. But in spite of an abundance of milk and the best possible care, they can never grow and mature in a normal way. They are dwarfs.

Every progressive cattleman will wish to acquire a working knowledge of common disorders, diseases and other abnormalities, that may result in loss for himself and the industry. Dwarfism in cattle is one of those costly conditions, not a new one, exactly, but one that has become more widespread and correspondingly more alarming.

There is reason to believe that Canadian herds are carrying less of dwarfism than is the case south of the international boundary, but that is no reason for any relaxation in a determination to make and keep Canadian herds clean. A reputation for freedom from dwarfism could be most valuable.

Any one of several environmental conditions, including insufficient feed and calfhood indigestion could result in setback and cause a calf to be stunted to one degree or another. But dwarfism in cattle is something else and means more than a runt or stunted individual; as the term is used in respect to cattle, it is a rather specific thing, like stringhalt in horses and black fleeces in sheep. It probably reflects a glandular failure but that failure is a hereditary thing and a seriously objectionable thing which every herd owner should be able to recognize.

Nor should dwarfism be confused with a lot of the smaller sized but physiological dwarfs. Dwarfs are normal representatives of the beef breeds. Show-ring standards have been blamed for popularizing the small sized or pony or compressed type of beef cattle, a type that is superb in point of quality but short in scale and weight. The showing does reflect breeders' ideals and breeders' fads but it may be quite unjust to hold the fairs and exhibitions responsible for an increase in the occurrence of a genetic recessive that has very doubtful relationship with external type characteristics.

A calf with the genetic constitution of a dwarf is born. What does it look like? It may be up to normal birth weight and be little different than its more normal brothers and sisters. It may even possess such a short and broad head and short legs that its owner thinks he sees in it a potential champion. But because of genetic factors inherited from both parents, its fate is sealed and it can't be anything except an unprofitable dwarf.

Its true character becomes more obvious as the weeks pass; it develops a pronounced dish in its face, an undershot jaw and protruding eyeballs. The legs remain short; the tongue protrudes slightly; breathing may become labored, the belly heavy and the movements rather lacking in co-ordination. Finally, growth is conspicuously slow. Quite a few dwarf calves fail to survive but in the case of the calf that lives or is allowed to live, its two-year-old weight may be that of a big weanling or a small yearling.

It is of first importance that the breeder recognize the abnormal individual as a dwarf and then tie the responsibility to the proper parent stock. To deal effectively with dwarfism, one must know something of the genetics of that condition.

There may be several types of dwarfism but in its most common form, it appears to be transmitted as a Mendelian recessive. That places it in the same category as red color in Aberdeen-Angus cattle and black fleece in sheep. An animal may carry the factor as a "single dose" without showing it, but when the recessive characteristic does express itself as in a dwarf calf, it is proof that both parents were carriers and contributed to the "double dose" or homozygous condition, no matter how normal they may appear.

To say that the dwarf calf is homozygous is to say it is pure for dwarfism; both parents, which appear normal, must be carrying factors for dwarfism along with factors for absence of dwarfism, the latter dominating. Those parents are said to have inherited a single dose of the trouble; they are heterozygous and although carriers, they are not themselves dwarfs.

Strangely enough, the case histories of a number of dwarf calves born in Western Canada in 1951 and 1952, failed to reveal any outward signs of undersize in the parent stock. The bulls that were the sires would conform to normal size on the average and in many cases, the owner reported the dam of a dwarf calf as "one of the big-

gest cows in the herd." But, then, recessive genetic factors act that way.

This seems to refute the argument that the swing to quality and refinement in beef cattle has led to an increase in the incidence of dwarfism.

No cattleman is likely to try to raise dwarf calves and consequently the danger of propagating their kind does not arise directly from them. Spread of the troublesome genes or hereditary determiners will be through the normal-appearing but heterozygous parent stock.

When a dwarf is born, three individuals are implicated at once as carriers, the calf itself and each of the two parents. One parent is probably not any more responsible than the other.

In those cases where only one parent is a "carrier", the offspring could not be a dwarf but still that parent can transmit a "single dose" of the factor to make the offspring heterozygous or carriers. And let it not be overlooked that a bull or cow which has produced even a single dwarf offspring should be regarded as a genetic offender just as much as if a number of such calves had occurred.

To continue to use the sire of one dwarf calf is, therefore, to pretty well ensure that a number of the normal appearing offspring will be "single dose" carriers which, when mated with carriers like themselves, may produce "double dose" specimens or typical dwarfs. Half of the heifers from a carrier sire and clean cows can be expected to be carriers.

While dwarfism can be the cause of quite heavy losses to the cattlemen, it will be seen that as long as normal-appearing cattle are used for breeding, the number of pure recessives or dwarfs is not likely to represent a very high percentage. In the event that a "single dose" or heterozygous or carrier bull is used on heterozygous females, the matings would be

expected, in theory, to result in 25% of dwarfs, 50% of "single dose" carriers with normal outward appearance like their parents and 25% of calves that are completely free from the troublesome factor.

How can one tell if a bull is a carrier? The only certain way would be to test him on a number of females that are known to be carriers. If such a mating programme, involving a dozen or more females, produces no dwarf calves, it is reasonable assurance that the bull will not contribute the offending genes to successive generations.

Inbreeding is not the cause of dwarfism but a programme of close matings is more likely to bring "single dose" factors together to give "double dose" effect and dwarfism. The genetic mechanism is thus about the same as in the case of abnormalities like scrotal hernia in pigs and black color in white-faced breeds of sheep. These things can be eliminated by the bold removal of carrier breeding stock and special thought to the genetic purity of new introductions to the herd.

Every breeder would like to suppose that his pig herd is free from factors for cryptorchism and that his pure-bred cattle herd is free from harmful lethals and abnormalities. Certainly most Canadian cattle herds are free but the challenge is to be on guard against any hereditary unsoundness and protect the good reputation that breeding animals from Canadian herds enjoy elsewhere.

If the condition of dwarfism is recognized in the herd, shutting one's eyes to it could only lead to more serious trouble. There is nothing to be gained by silence on the subject, nor is there reason for undue alarm; an understanding of the genetics of dwarfism coupled with forthright action in voluntary cancellation of pedigrees of both bulls and cows that have been known to produce dwarfs, one or more, can achieve success.

Meditations at twilight

By A. L. MARKS

HAVE you ever considered there may be hidden defects in the disciplinary regulations of your home, as they apply to your children? Katherine was certain she had discovered one in her home. This is the story:

She was extremely careless with her things, with the result they were lost a large part of the time. She finally reached the age when her mother decided it was time to bring the matter to a head, and get her to develop a sense of responsibility.

Katherine was told by her mother that she would be presented with a little rake of her own, provided two things: first, she must take good care of it and not lose it; next, it was to be understood that if she lost it she would be spanked and put to bed no matter what time of day the loss occurred.

It was spring and she was eager to get the rake and get into the garden, so she gladly agreed to those two simple and apparently reasonable conditions. Most any conditions were satisfactory so long as she got her rake.

The next day the rake was delivered to an enthusiastic and waiting Katherine.

Alas, however, about four o'clock in the same afternoon, Katherine came into the house and admitted she had lost her rake. She duly received her spanking and was put to bed.

The following day she came bounding breathlessly into the house holding the rake, and, between gasps, said to her mother: "Yesterday you gave me a rake and said if I lost it, you'd give me a spanking and put me to bed. I lost it and you did it. There's your old rake, and now what are you going to do about it?"

The Wheat Pool Story

AT quite a few shipping points local Pool Elevators are "plugged". This creates an unfortunate condition for Pool members there who want to deliver grain to their own facilities. In some instances Pool members have asked the question "Why advertise asking for patronage of Pool Elevators when there is no room in the Pool Elevators at our point?"

It should be remembered, however, that there are 486 Alberta Wheat Pool country elevators and in many of these there is ample space for grain deliveries. Pool publicity is, therefore, directed to the farm people surrounding such delivery points.

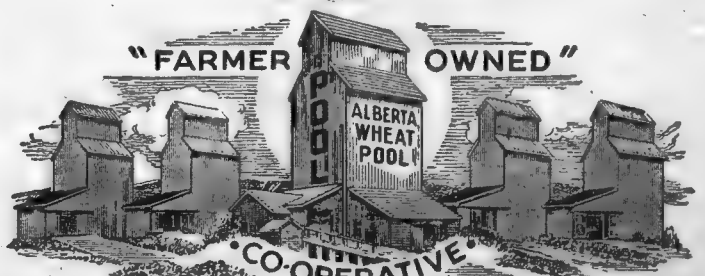
Furthermore, a publicity program to be successful must be comprehensive and continuous. It is important that the farm people should be constantly reminded of the advantages of supporting the Alberta Wheat Pool.

This organization has been largely instrumental in keeping down costs of handling grain. Its presence and strength in an important division of the economic life in this province has prevented a drift towards monopoly practices. Pool Elevators are operated on a cost basis with excess earnings returned to Pool members. Ninety-five per cent of Alberta Pool earnings in the 1951-52 crop year went right back into the farmers' pockets.

Pool Elevator policies are based on the desires of working farmers and on experiences gained over many, many years of co-operative effort. The democratic system under which the Wheat Pool is operated makes it responsive to the aims and desires of "operating farmers."

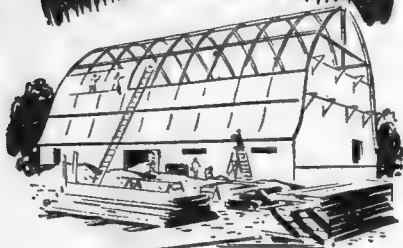
Alberta Wheat Pool publicity has constantly followed a pattern of public education. People in villages, towns and cities are continually made aware of the vital importance of agriculture to the economy of the province and to the Canadian nation. In no other province in Canada has agriculture's importance received such a deserved measure of publicity.

"The Wheat Pool Story" is an important one. Its aim is to build a lasting and growing farmer co-operative which will be of service to agriculture in generations to come. Also to create a sympathetic atmosphere to every other farmer co-operative in this province.



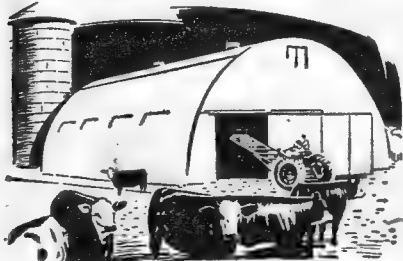
"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

MODERN BUILDINGS help to cut PRODUCTION COSTS

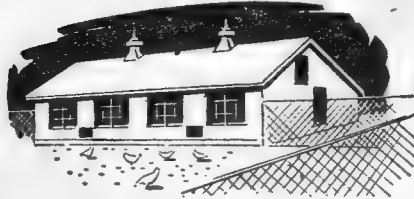


With higher farm wages and labour in short supply, more and more attention is being paid to designing farm buildings which will save work, increase production, and promote better health of livestock and poultry.

Your farm may require new construction or alteration of your present structures to get best results. With the many new developments in both building design and construction materials, it will be worthwhile to obtain expert advice on the layout and materials which will best serve your needs.



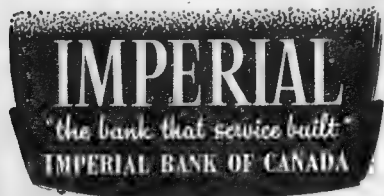
Another problem which arises with such projects is finance. Imperial Bank is always interested in helping farmers who wish to do a better job, and Farm Improvement Loans are designed to help farmers who wish to modernize their buildings, and to keep them in good repair.



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Your local Imperial Bank Manager will be glad to explain the details of Farm Improvement Loans and to discuss your financial requirements. Drop in to see him.

44-3



Sawdust mulch catches on with B.C. gardeners

By TOM LEACH

IF you had paid a visit to many west coast gardens last month you might have asked the question: why is sawdust being spread over the soil? Some gardeners say it's the best thing yet to eliminate weeds and cut down on cultivation. Others tell you it will ruin the soil. A good many are giving it a trial to see what it will do just like one Vancouver Island grower did a few years ago.

Sawdust mulching started in a small scale. Neighbors saw what happened and the practice has spread beyond the garden test. Bulb growers, nurserymen, and small fruit growers are all chasing around the country looking for piles of old sawdust which they can reach easily with their trucks. Old stacks that were waste from large and small mills are fast disappearing.

Often the claims for the sawdust mulch were exaggerated. At the beginning the stories told how, with a little sawdust, you could plant your garden without even digging the soil. spread a layer of 3 inches of sawdust on the surface and let the seeds grow.

Of course you had to be careful to keep the seeds from being buried too deeply in the mulch. You could overcome that by pulling the sawdust away from the rows until the seeds germinated and started to grow. Then you raked the sawdust back toward the seedlings, a little more every few days as the crop grew.

Once the garden was established, so the story went, you could relax in your armchair and sit back until it was time to harvest a very fine crop minus weeds.

Not So Easy

Nothing is achieved without some effort and this idea did not prove to be quite so easy as it sounded. Those who made an attempt to garden with sawdust found to begin with that you could not get the seeds to germinate so quickly at the start. They also found that some weeds will persist even under sawdust mulch, and they also found that it upset the fertilizer program. However, it was also as obvious that sawdust mulching had some merit. Once that was proved in a practical way the horticulturists and Experimental Stations rolled up their sleeves and went to work.

Their tests explained the light green color in some of the plantings with sawdust mulch. They found that the sawdust created a deficiency of nitrogen in the soil. The hungry plants showed their lack of nourishment in pale colored leaves.

They also found that the tem-

perature of the soil under the sawdust remained several degrees lower than without the cover. The sawdust provided a good insulation against the heat from the sun.

Better Lillies

The hot days did not warm the soil as rapidly but for some crops that was desirable. Bulb growers, especially those who specialized in the cultivation of the multi-colored lilies, were delighted with the cooler soil conditions. They found the lily bulbs grew much better when they had a steady temperature and not the rapid heating and cooling which is often the way in the spring of the year.

Both tulips and daffodils made excellent growth with sawdust mulches yet growers are still cautious about its use. They approve of the better growth and are trying to decide whether that is enough to offset the increased damage from bulb-fly. The same amount of spraying on both plantings failed to control the fly where it had the protection of sawdust.

The saving in hours of cultivation seems to be the biggest advantage unless you count the moisture conserving value of the sawdust mulch. That means a lot to many farmers on Vancouver Island in a year like 1952. Rainfall that year was only a fraction of normal and water in wells dropped to a new low point.

The possibility of applying irrigation water was remote and those who had applied sawdust were able to retain much of the soil moisture and harvest a fair crop of berries. The same was true in the Fraser Valley where small fruit growing is a big industry covering as they do over 3,000 acres. Yields on the mulched fields were reported at

twice the production of clean cultivated crops.

Big Gains

Tests which were established to provide some varification for these claims surprised many with the results. Rows of loganberries grown side by side, some with sawdust mulch and some under clean cultivation, proved to Vancouver Island growers that mulching could increase the yield by as much as one ton per acre.

Two thousand pounds of loganberries one year and five thousand pounds more the second year compared with production from the clean cultivated area was enough to convince even the most sceptical that the idea of mulching with sawdust had real value.

A few growers were disappointed with results. The weed problem was reduced, they had little hoeing to do, but the plants were not thrifty. Yields did not come up to expectations. They were looking for sawdust mulch to accomplish the impossible. They overlooked the sound practice of manuring their crops.

Even with a good mulch, strawberries, raspberries and other small fruits must be fertilized. The decomposition of the sawdust removes a certain amount of nitrogen from the soil. If additional nitrogen is not provided by applying manure or fertilizer the leaf will show the hunger signs of pale green leaves instead of the deep rich green the gardener expects.

R. E. C. Stephens, the Vancouver Island grower of small fruits who started the epidemic of sawdust hunting among B.C. growers was one jump ahead of the others. He was in the habit of applying a heavy dressing of manure, sea-weed and commercial fertilizers to his crops. His success with the mulch of sawdust was almost assured. He would obtain a good crop without the mulch but by using the

Nuzzling



Photo by Don Smith.

sawdust and conserving the moisture he improved upon good yields.

When others learned about the idea they heard only about the use of mulch. They rushed to get hawdust on the land and ignored the important point of soil fertility. That didn't work. Crops did not respond and dissatisfaction with mulching was expressed openly by those who jumped before they looked.

Others who studied the use of mulch, investigated its value and tried it out in a small way to begin with are now staunch supporters of mulching. They are the growers who are still searching for sawdust.

The stacks of sawdust within easy reach of coast farms are

few now. New sawdust has too much "turps" to be safe and the loggers have moved the small mills back into the hills, always farther and farther away. Hauling charges mount, higher each year so if growers want to mulch they will soon be forced to find other materials.

Some attempt is being made to replace the sawdust on a few crops with straw. But, where grain is not grown extensively the small amount of straw to be found commands a comparatively high price. It has been selling in the Fraser Valley for \$25 a ton all winter.

Agricultural engineers hold out hope to farmers that a cheaper mulching material may be available soon. Chippers

have been developed and are being used successfully to eat up rubbish from woodlots and roadsides in the Pacific Coast states.

They chew away at tree branches, prunings, stumps and old fence posts at the rate of several tons per hour. Blowers carry the chips into an attached trailer which can then be hauled to the nearest dairy farm for bedding or to another farm for mulching.

The only drawback to the chippers at present is the high initial cost. But once enough farmers are convinced that mulching is a good practice, that it will improve yields and reduce cultivation, and

when all sources of mulching material like sawdust have been exhausted, then someone will find a way to put a chipper to work on the waste timber.

Good guesser

Alex. Craig of Olds, Alberta, won the \$300.00 first prize offered by the Nance Company for the nearest correct estimate on the number of hours a Field-Marshall Tractor will run on one tank of fuel. In the test, conducted at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Lacombe, the correct time was 83 hours, 45 minutes and 23 seconds on 17.5 gallons of fuel.

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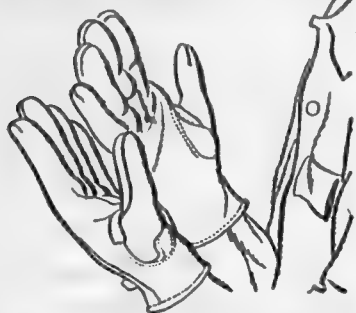
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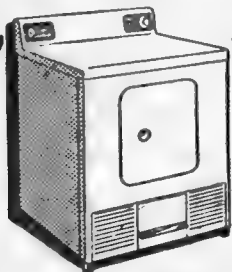
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Armful of Pets



Photo by Richard Harrington.

Plan for the Summer Flower Shows now

By H. F. HARP

THE season of flowers shows is usually during the latter weeks of August and while this is still a long way off, would-be exhibitors will be well advised to give some early thought to the extra care and attention needed to produce first-rate exhibits.

All across the country in the large cities and even the smallest towns Horticultural Societies stage an annual flower show when members show what they grow. Others who are not gardeners at all or who are merely novices, may see what is best in flowers and vegetables, and perhaps become inclined to join a Horticultural Society and stage an exhibit.

The following notes indicate what the judges look for in first-prize vegetables and flowers:

Vegetables — The root crops such as carrots, beets, parsnips and turnips should be thinned out before they become too crowded, otherwise they will become misshapen.

Beets that should be perfectly round often appear with one side flattened due to overcrowding in the row. This is a serious fault because it shows that no special care has been given in growing them.

Carrots with the "shoulders" of the roots green will certainly get a demerit mark. This greening is caused by exposure to the sun. By drawing a little soil about the root tops this greening can be avoided.

In selecting roots for the show bench a uniform sample is most important. Opinions may differ as to what size is best. The standard recommended by leading Horticultural Societies is, for beets about two and a half inches in diameter; carrots, one and one-half inches or slightly larger;

parsnips as large as they can be grown. The same goes for onions.

Size is important. Keep in mind that all samples must be suitable for table use. It is well to remember that a good judge will favor a uniform sample if smaller than a larger one that lacks uniformity.

Onions test the skill of the gardener more so than any of the other crops mentioned. To grow large, well-ripened onions in time for the show requires a knowledge and skill beyond that of most past-time gardeners. The method herewith, outlined briefly, will be found to give satisfactory results.

Transplanted onion seedlings are obtained from a grower or raised at home by sowing seed indoors in early March. Sweet Spanish is the variety usually chosen for this purpose.

Specially prepared soil, having been well manured the previous autumn and allowed to lay in a rough state over winter is levelled and made firm in early spring. Care should be taken not to attempt working the soil when wet or it will become too firmly compacted.

Apply a dressing of fertilizer (11-48-0) at the rate of four ounces per square yard, lightly raking it into the surface of the bed. The onion plants are set out in rows one and a half to two feet apart, spacing the plants about nine inches in the row. Deep planting is a common mistake. The bulbous portion of the plant should be set at ground level. If planted deeper the result will be thickened "necks".

The long white roots must be allowed to grow freely and not doubled up or serious checking of growth will result. Cutting away a portion of the roots and also the tops is often practiced;

this is not recommended as the young plant needs all the root and top to function properly. Water the young plants well. By adding a tablespoonful of 50% wettable DDT to each gallon of water the dread onion maggot will be held in check.

Regular hoeing is routine work, practicing shallow cultivation and taking care not to bruise the growing bulbs. In periods of drought, water should be supplied if available by drawing a little soil from either side of the row forming a shallow trench which is filled with water. If only hard water from a well is at hand, it had best be pumped into a horse trough or barrel and allowed to stand in the sun for a day to warm up. Ice-cold water will cause plants to check. By mid-July the young plants will be growing away freely and need extra stimulants to swell the bulbs.

Ammonium sulphate diluted in water. One tablespoonful per gallon is recommended at weekly intervals.

Before applying liquid manure of any kind the plants should be well watered or serious burning may result. The tops of the plants should be bent down at ground level about the end of the first week of August to assist in ripening the bulbs. No further stimulants are needed from now on.

Selected bulbs for show purposes should be carefully lifted a week or so before needed for exhibition and dried in full sun. If the weather is cool and damp, they must be taken indoors. Sun-ripened onions have a better color as a rule than those that are ripened indoors. A good show onion should be smooth, solid, small necked and the color of straw.

Tomatoes — The trend in prairie gardens is toward bush-type tomatoes, mostly because they require no staking. Samples of fruits from these low-growing kinds are often blemished by coming in contact with the soil. The staking varieties are much better suited for show work.

The aim should be a uniform sample of evenly ripened fruits, free from all blemishes and well colored. Some gardeners like to pick their show tomatoes a day or two before the show, storing them, not in an



"He wants us to demonstrate our power saws on the whole load."

ice-box, but in a warm room. This improves their color. The stems should be left on or the good judge will frown.

Leaf Vegetables

Cabbage, lettuce, and celery should be very fresh, free from insect damage and of a size suitable for table use. Celery must be clean, solid head. Roots are trimmed off neatly and stems are washed free of soil.

Cauliflowers should be snowy white, fine textured and have a portion of the outer leaves removed.

A common mistake and one that causes keen disappointment is to have an incorrect number of specimens staged. It pays to study the prize list to make sure that all entries are conforming to the requirements of the schedule.

From personal experience as a judge, it has been found that an occasional exhibit has more specimens than allowed, purposely placed there by one who thought the judge would pick out the best and discard the remaining ones. In a case like that the judge has no alternative but to disqualify the entry.

All flowers should be fresh, approaching their peak of perfection rather than having passed it. Medium-sized specimens that have freshness will win every time over larger ones that are past their best, if, of course, the judge is a competent one.

Horticultural show committees should always insist on all entries being correctly named. The show itself is for the purpose of enlightening interested people as to what varieties are best suited for showing. This is particularly important with Gladioli as the endless variety confuses those who would like to know them by name.

All material selected for the show bench should be prepared the evening before the show. Vegetables may be stored on the floor of a cool basement. Cut flowers in water covering two-thirds of their stems.

In staging cut flowers, always have the vases or baskets filled with water before the flowers are placed in them. There is less danger of forgetting to put the water in. Wilted specimens will be quickly rejected by the judge.

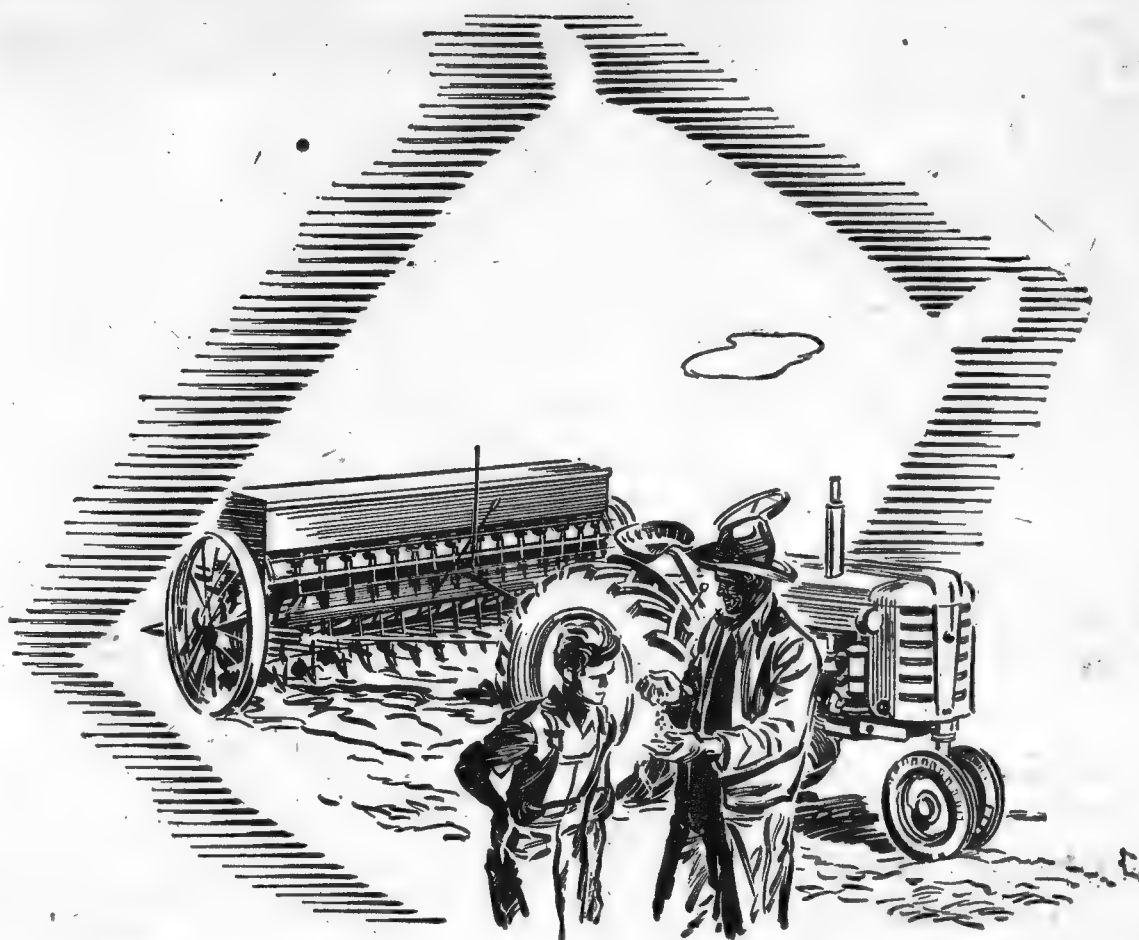
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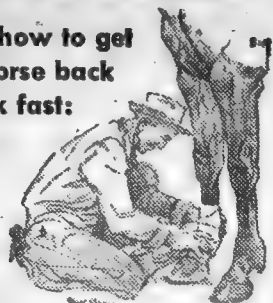
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Photo by Richard Harrington.

Where public interest is a pain in the neck

By KERRY WOOD

HALF a dozen times a month comes a request worded as follows: "Please send me a complete list of all the birds and animals in Canada, right away!" The letter will be scrawled on scribbler paper in a juvenile script, the idea behind the request having something to do with what's called "The Enterprise System" of school training. This is an educational theory that requires students to dig up the facts for themselves, but who can blame them if they try to get someone else to do their work?

I always groan when such a request comes in; if you listen carefully, you'll hear me groaning right now. This time a phone call came from an air force officer at a nearby RCAF station. Would I kindly send a list of the fauna and flora of the district?

"Just a few paragraphs, please," the pleasant voiced gentleman requested. "But complete, you know."

The trouble is that in almost any part of temperate Canada there are 300 varieties of birds, if you count every migrant, summer resident, and winter visitor. A list of 300 names such as the Ferruginous Roughleg Hawk or the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker would mean nothing but extreme boredom to the average small boy or curly-headed lassie or air force officer — unless there was some descriptive material supplied to make those strange names come alive as real creatures.

For example, the Ferruginous Roughleg Hawk is a beneficial gopher-eating bird that has the staid habit of building on the same nesting site year after year if undisturbed. Such hawks live to a ripe old age of 20 to 30 years, and you can imagine what happens when a pair build

on the same site for such a span of time.

On the river banks downstream from our home there is such a nest, the hawks adding to the accumulation of nesting sticks year after year until it has heaped up about eight feet high and spreads more than ten feet across at the base. The huge pile of old and new nesting material would fill a large living room!

Pile of Bones

Near this nest you'll find bone remains of literally thousands of gophers, because each Roughleg kills an aver-

age of two gophers per day during its summer stay with us from April until September. What a thrilling sight it is, watching the broad-winged hawks riding the up-drafts of warm air hour after hour of effortless gliding until a bird becomes hungry and, suddenly, the wings narrow and the hawk plummets down to sink talons into an unsuspecting ground squirrel.

As for the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker — Most of our woodpeckers have sharply pointed tongues which are fitted with tiny rough barbs to help them extract grubs they have exposed by drilling into rotten stumps, but the Sapsucker has a brush of a tongue developed for lapping up sap. How does it get the sap? By boring neat vertical and horizontal rows of eighth-inch holes through the outer bark of birches, willows, and apple trees, perforating 20 different trees in a small radius near the nest, then visiting each tree in turn a couple times daily to lap up the sap that has welled into the holes.

The Sapsucker, our only harmful woodpecker, always chooses a live tree in which to excavate its nest-hole. In our district, Sapsuckers bore into the heart of an 8 or 10-inch Aspen Poplar, thus causing the death of a goodly tree every year.

But if we merely listed 300 bird names, most of us would bog down before we got through the sheet of 40 different sparrows, 20 kinds of warblers, 15 ducks and 33 raptorial birds.

As for animals, in our district we have around 60 varieties despite the fact that this is a long settled farming community. We've even got moose at times, quite close to a city that has been properly incorporated and

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is bursting at the seams with civic pride. The moose follow the river down from the mountain wilds and, at times, wander into the city limits.

Once a bull moose invaded our residential areas at 5 a.m. of a July morning. Its huge antlers were "in the velvet", blood-gorged in the growing state and almost twice as massive as the polished antlers of autumn. This large bull, sporting the horrible head-rack of swollen antlers, shaggy of coat and enormously long of snout, went ambling along the cement sidewalk past a row of houses. And it chanced that a couple who had been indulging in rich red wine half the night had just returned home. They heard the clop-clop of the moose hooves and went to their front windows to peer out with bleary and weary eyes. Imagine their alcoholic shock at sighting the exceedingly ugly moose, only fifteen feet away and looking larger than life and twice as grotesque.

The man made a strangling noise like: "Ga-a-ahhhhhh!"

Whereupon his wife said: "Well, I see it, too, and I'll go on the water wagon if you will!"

Continuing our sheet of animals, we have Mule and Northern White-tail Deer, while black bears visit our district during the berry season. Once a cougar came within half a mile of town, where it hauled a 150-pound calf from a farmer's yard into the screening shelter of a bluff a hundred yards away. Then there was the time a lynx climbed into a tree back of the school and yowled fearsomely.

Night Life

However, most of the sixty animals wouldn't be seen because of their secretive or nocturnal habits. For example, we rarely sight *Zapus*, the jumping mouse that can clear 6 feet at a single bound. We seldom see the tiny shrews, which sometimes sit up on their hind quarters and shrill out a high-pitched singing to enthrall the ears of their lady loves. Have you ever sighted the Great Northern Bat, with a wing-span of 16 inches? Do you ever see the richly furred mink? A beautiful specimen came right into the heart of our little city of 8,500 people and caught a frog under the main bridge across the creek!

In addition to birds and animals, the air force officer wants the flora named too.

"Just a few paragraphs," the pleasant voice said. "But complete, you know."

So I am groaning with despair. Should I say: coming right up, a list of 300 birds, 60 animals, 1,000 plant forms, and possibly 400,000 insect names starting with the *Macrolepidoptera*? Or should I do what I usually do: refer him to the nearest Public Library and urge him to go ahead and make his own list!

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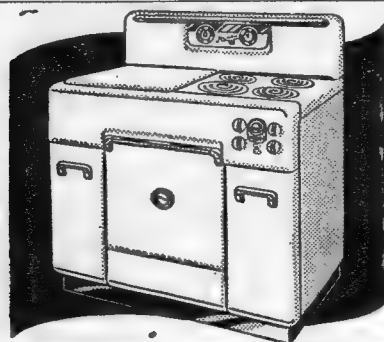
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Let's try to revive the community picnic day

By KATHERINE HOWARD

CHANGES come with the years and progress inevitably brings to a community, difference of habits and modes. Especially is this change seen in the annual rural community picnic. Even the name is changed. No one nowadays would allude to the complex affair that takes place on the land surrounding the community hall, as a "Picnic". Now it is the "Annual Sports' Day", and the old institution is hardly recognizable.

Thirty years ago, the families of the rural districts climbed into the big, double wagon boxes behind the teams of sturdy horses. Father, in a clean pair of overalls, and a light shirt donned for the occasion, helped mother who was carrying a big basket covered with a white cloth, into the seat. The children scrambled up and over the sides. Father chirruped to the team of greys and they were off.

The clean white cloth in the basket, covered sandwiches of home-cured pork, a big bowl of potato salad, a cake, carefully packed and forks and spoons and plates.

Nowadays few people would dream of bothering to take a lunch to the community sports' ground, and the presence of a team and wagon among the throng of cars of every type and make, would cause a surprised raising of the eyebrows.

Inside the hall, ladies of the lunch committee of the community, executive, serve lunch on paper plates at 50 cents and upwards a serving. Outside the hall, at a booth from which tantalizing odours issue, you may buy hot dogs or hamburgers and onions, and paper cups filled with coffee.

Big Treat

Thirty years ago, children clustered around the refreshment booth, where ice-cream, brought out from the nearest railway centre in a democrat drawn by fast stepping horses, had been repacked with ice and kept in a cool and shady place until the picnic began.

Now a truck roars onto the grounds as the first cars arrive at the parking place behind the hall, and within half an hour the refreshment booth is a fair facsimile of a confectionery store in town. Ice-cream comes out firm and cold from the containers which only 20 minutes ago were in the freezer of the store 15 miles away. The shelves of the booth are stacked with boxes of candy, chocolate bars and cigarettes. Watermelon and bananas are for sale, and countless boxes of soft drinks in every flavor imaginable are stacked under shelves and tables.

Gone is the big jar of home-

made lemonade from which we got our liquid refreshment years ago. The modern youngster wants "Coke". He has progressed with the times too.

Of course this is "Sports' Day", and sports are very much in evidence. The baseball games of 30 years ago, when friendly players from the home and neighboring communities battled it out on the diamond, or the married men beat the single young fellows of the district by 9 runs to 8, have been superseded by spectacular exhibitions of play. Now we have baseball tournaments on our sports' day, when several teams compete for money prizes and are "Spiked" with top-ranking players from outside points.

Always a Feature

Where is the tug-of-war between the married and single men that was an essential item of every community picnic, and where is the game of quoits or horse-shoe pitching, that went on to the accompaniment of laughter and cheers?

One of the highlights of the community picnic of the old days was the children's races. Almost everyone in the district lined the side of a level, sandy stretch of road to watch the youngsters compete in the flat race, the long jump, the high and broad jump, and the three-legged race. From the tiny, appealing two-year-olds to the gawky adolescents, the children all took part and were applauded by the grownups.

The grownups had their turn too! There were races for every

one, for married ladies, married men, fat ladies and fat men, a sack race, a potato race, an egg and spoon race and a needle threading race.

It could be we were simpler in those days and our pleasures were simpler too. Now the children's races are watched only by the mothers of the little ones who run and jump, and how many of us would lower our dignity by tearing up and down the road under the hot sun.

Besides, there is a bingo game going on under the trees behind the hall, and a "Mid-way," (sure sign of progress) blares tinny music where a carnival company has paid for, and set up a concession of a shooting-gallery, dart boards, a merry-go-round and a "Hoop-la" stall.

All day long the base ball games go on, the series continuing one after another, through the afternoon and evening as long as the light lasts. If there is time, a junior softball game may be sandwiched into the proceedings.

After all a community sports' day isn't intended for children. Rapidly it is developing into a commercialized affair attended by an increasing number of people who are strangers to the community. Its success is estimated by the net profit from entrance tickets, profits on sales of refreshments and money paid by the people holding the games concessions.

But perhaps in these streamlined times of wurlitzers and juke boxes, fast cars and snack bars, the picnic of the old days would seem boring in the extreme. The rising generation does not look at things in the same light that we do, and if we sigh nostalgically for the days that are gone, maybe it's because we are no longer young.

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THE straw left on a field after combining a very heavy, rank crop frequently creates a problem in seeding and tilling operations. A straw-cutter attachment on the combine and the use of the new tillage and seeding implements designed for operating in heavy trash cover should help to alleviate these difficulties.

In addition to tilling and seeding difficulties, straw left after combining a very heavy crop may cause a reduced yield in the crop grown the following year. At the present time in Western Canada it is not known what amount of straw will cause reduced yields nor how widespread a problem reduced yields from heavy trash cover is.

In the United States, reduced yields of crops following the addition of a straw mulch were encountered before 1900. Agricultural workers at the Experiment Stations in a number of states began investigating the problem early in the present century in an attempt to determine why there should be reduction in yield and how the yield reduction could be corrected.

Lack Nitrogen

These extensive investigations revealed that the reduced yields were caused by a lack of available nitrogen for the growing plants. They further revealed that the soil micro-organisms that decompose straw

Nitrogen helps restore yields when straw is heavy

By D. R. WALKER,
Lacombe Experimental Station

increase in numbers when an abundant supply of straw is available and these organisms utilize a portion of the available nitrogen that normally would be used by the growing plant.

Phosphorus is also utilized by

the decomposing organisms in the same manner as is nitrogen. Phosphorus deficiency, however, does not create as acute a problem as does a nitrogen deficiency. Laboratory tests indicate that the addition of phos-

phorus increases the rate of decomposition of straw and, therefore, should be included with nitrogen in a fertilizer for crops grown on land where a heavy crop has been combined and the straw left on the land.

U. S. Results

Investigations were carried on further in the United States to determine what amount of nitrogen it was necessary to add to a field to alleviate the yield reducing effect of the straw trash cover. This phase of the investigations revealed that it was necessary to add enough nitrogen fertilizer to bring the nitrogen content of the dry straw up to 1.5 to 1.7 per cent by weight.

Straw contains approximately 0.5 per cent nitrogen, therefore 1.0 to 1.2 per cent nitrogen must be applied in the form of fertilizer in order to alleviate the harmful effect of the trash cover. This amounts to 20 to 24 pounds of nitrogen for every one ton of straw left after the combine. If ammonium nitrate 33-0-0 is used as the source of nitrogen it is necessary to apply 60 to 72 pounds of the 30-0-0 fertilizer for every one ton of straw.

A very important finding during these investigations was that the amount of soil organic matter built up from a straw trash cover increased as the amount of nitrogen added to the straw residue was increased.

Across the Fraser

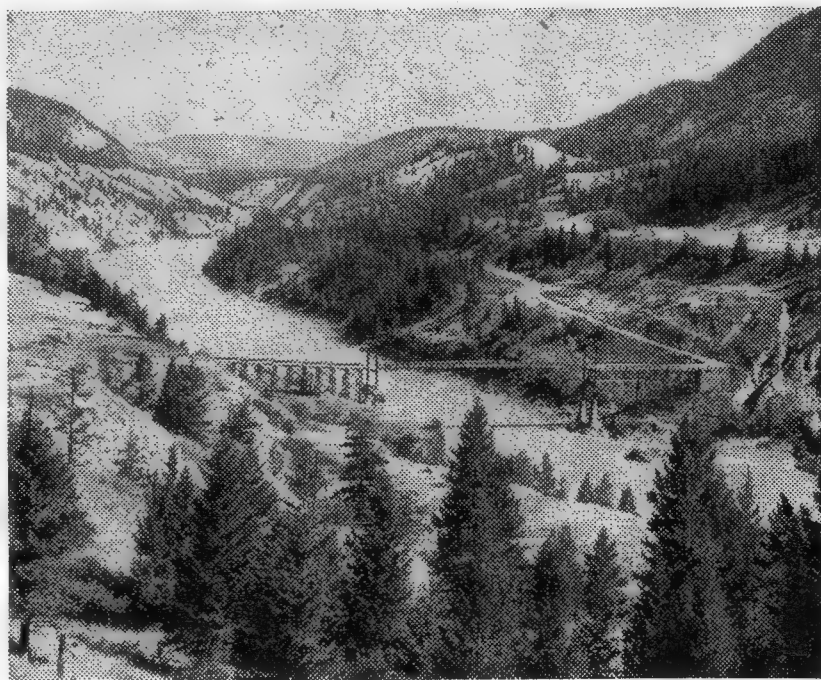
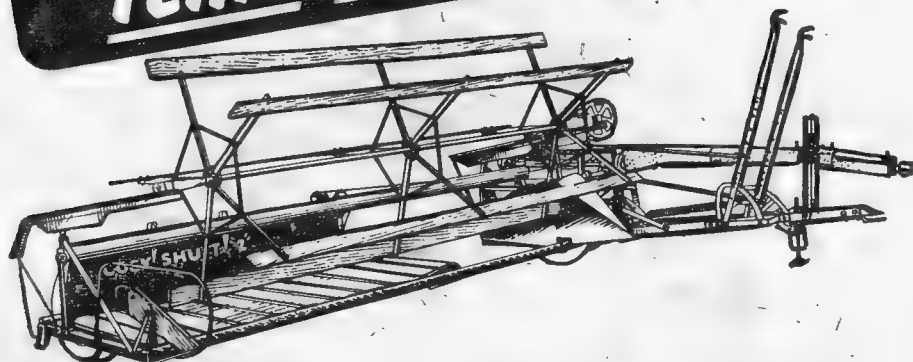


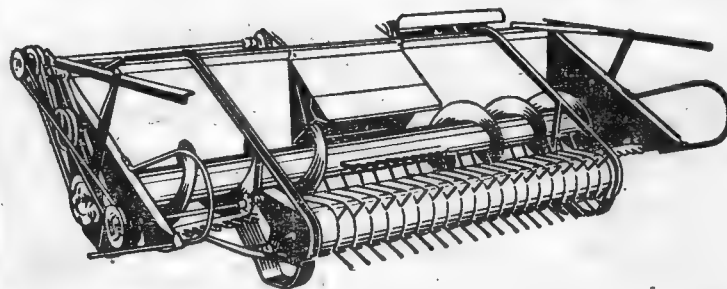
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The nitrogen and phosphorus that is utilized in decomposing the straw residue is made available to the growing plants after the organisms which cause the straw to decompose, die and decay. The nitrogen and phosphorus included in the fertilizer thus serves two useful purposes in the soil.

An attempt was made to determine the best tillage practices to promote rapid decomposition of straw residues in the series of tests conducted in the United States. This phase of the investigation revealed that straw should be thoroughly mixed with the surface soil in order to provide the most suitable conditions for decomposition while still maintaining protection against wind erosion and excess water run-off. A one-way or similar tillage implement will perform this operation satisfactorily.

In Western Canada, word on straw decomposition and the alleviation of reduced yields following the combining of very heavy crops has been quite limited. Only in recent years have investigations been conducted and the results to date indicate inconsistent benefits from high nitrogen fertilizers.

More extensive and intensive investigations of the problems arising from heavy trash are now being conducted in Western Canada. These investigations will show whether or not modifications of the treatments recommended in the United States are necessary here.

From the results of investigations in the United States and the limited investigations in Western Canada the following recommendations can be made:

(1) Straw trash should not be burned. Burning the straw destroys potential soil organic matter and leaves the land susceptible to wind and water erosion.

(2) An application of a high nitrogen fertilizer before or while working the straw into the surface soil is recommended. This can be accomplished by putting a fertilizer attachment on a one-way tiller; the fertilizer spouts should be arranged so that the fertilizer is broadcast ahead of the discs.

(4) The tilling and applying of a nitrogenous fertilizer should be done as soon after combining as possible to allow decomposition to start before spring seeding.

(5) An application of ammonium phosphate 11-48-0 should be made at the time of seeding.



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The British need both peace and markets

By BEN MALKIN

THE squabble between the United States and Britain last month, which stirred up such a furor, seemed bound to come, if not over the issues of the moment, then over other questions. For the underlying causes seem to be not so much the problem of whether Communist China should have a seat in the United Nations, or whether there should be a conference between the leaders of the United States, Britain and Russia now or six months from now, but rather whether U.S. economic politics are going to be such as to allow Britain to remain a great industrial power. That seems to be the real cause of tension between London and Washington.

Britain needs an end to the cold war more, perhaps, than even the U.S. does. American tariffs and other methods of excluding foreign goods restrict the U.S. market to British manufactured goods. Where else can Britain turn for trade? The great markets, of Russia and China are limited by the Western policy of confining trade to non-strategic goods. But Britain's heavy engineering and chemical industries can't exist by selling ping-pong balls and hand towels to countries behind the iron curtain.

Other markets — in Latin America, Asia, and Africa — are subject to increasingly tough competition from German and Japanese exporters. While Britain must devote a large proportion of its energy to producing defence materials, Germany and Japan, which do not make armaments, can concentrate on producing consumer goods for overseas markets at prices which the United Kingdom finds difficult to meet.

Big Force

Finally, Britain's defences are greatly, and expensively, extended. The country has had troops fighting in Malaya, Kenya and Korea, and on guard in Egypt, Hong Kong and Germany. It takes a lot of shipping and a lot of work to keep these men supplied and reinforced.

In these circumstances, Britain is worried about its ability to carry the load and still maintain, let alone improve, its living standards. An end to the cold war would be of enormous assistance to Britain, and for once it has been the United Kingdom that has been in a hurry to see if a stable peace is possible, and the U.S. that has preferred to wait. The inevitable result has been an open quarrel.

The immediate issues were whether, as Sir Winston Churchill suggested, a high level, informal talk should be held between himself, Malenkov of Russia, and Eisenhower of the U.S.; or whether, as Eisenhower believed, such a meeting should be deferred until disputes such as a Korean armistice and withdrawal of occupation troops from Austria had been settled first. Churchill thought such a conference could be useful if it merely gave him a chance to feel out whether Malenkov was sincere in his recent peace overtures. Eisenhower thought such a conference should not be held unless there was assurance that concrete agreements could come out of it.

China's Problem

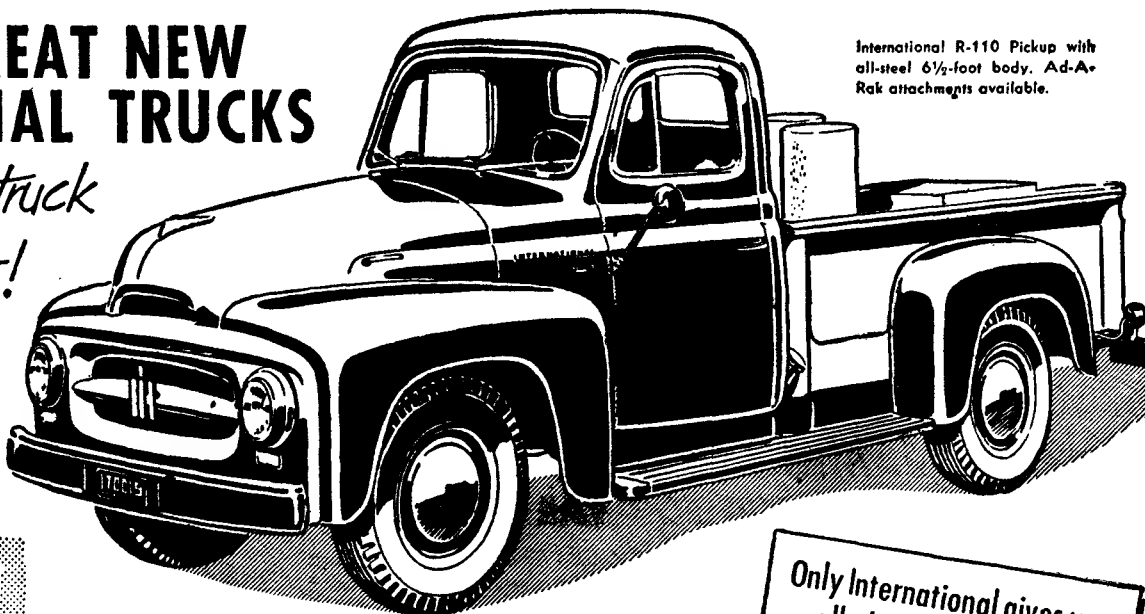
A second point of conflict was over China. The British felt Communist China should be given a seat in the United Nations shortly after a Korean truce was signed. The U.S. opposed this.

But even if these controversies are settled, serious points of conflict remain between the two great democracies. In the main, they seem to boil down to questions of economics and trade. And as long as trade rivalry continues, quarrels appear bound to break out, perhaps on questions that have nothing to do with economics, but which have their roots in

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tensions created by economic instability.

Trade Policy

Not only Britain and the U.S. are involved. Each country in Western Europe, and of course Canada itself, is concerned. When Prime Minister St. Laurent went to Washington early in May, he talked with President Eisenhower mainly about the St. Lawrence Seaway and about trade. The St. Lawrence Seaway question may be settled within the next year. The trade question probably won't, but will remain a source of friction and aggravation, bedevilling good relations between the United States and its friends everywhere, breaking out every now and again into hot-headed speeches in Ottawa, London, Paris and elsewhere. Even an end to the cold war won't help much unless new, more liberal trade policies are formulated in Washington.

Canada's last Parliament, elected in 1949, found the cold war, and how to meet it, the gravest problem it had to face. The next Parliament will likely find that economic problems will take precedence over defence issues. At least, that's the feeling in Ottawa. And they'll be even harder to meet than defence questions, which could be solved merely by increasing taxes and raising about five billion dollars. Trade problems and similar issues have to be met by good will and statesmanship in the U.S. and other countries. That's why Ottawa is a bit worried on the eve of the election.

Tree planting on farms

ENQUIRIES relative to obtaining trees for windbreak and landscaping purposes on farms are received frequently at the Experimental Farm at Brandon.

Land for tree planting should be summerfallowed the previous year. Farmers who anticipate shelterbelts or hedges in 1954 should plan a suitable location for these now. A sketch of the proposed plan should be made and submitted with an application for trees to the Superintendent, Forest Nursery Station, Indian Head, Sask., early this summer. This will enable the Nursery to draft a planting plan and decide on the kinds and numbers of trees required. These can then be added to the stocks of seedlings that have to be lifted in the fall of 1953 in readiness for shipping in the spring of 1954. It is obvious then that planning and applying for trees must be done early, preferably nine to ten months ahead of planting time.

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Far down the list a few years ago, Canada now ranks eighth. Except for a group of Middle East countries—Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia—only the U.S., Venezuela and Russia have larger reserves.

How many barrels of oil (35 gallons to a barrel) do you think Canadians use in a year—

8 millions? 165 millions? 300 millions?

Last year 165 million barrels—about one gallon each day for every man, woman and child. Canada uses twice as much oil as she did six years ago.

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greater? less? about the same?

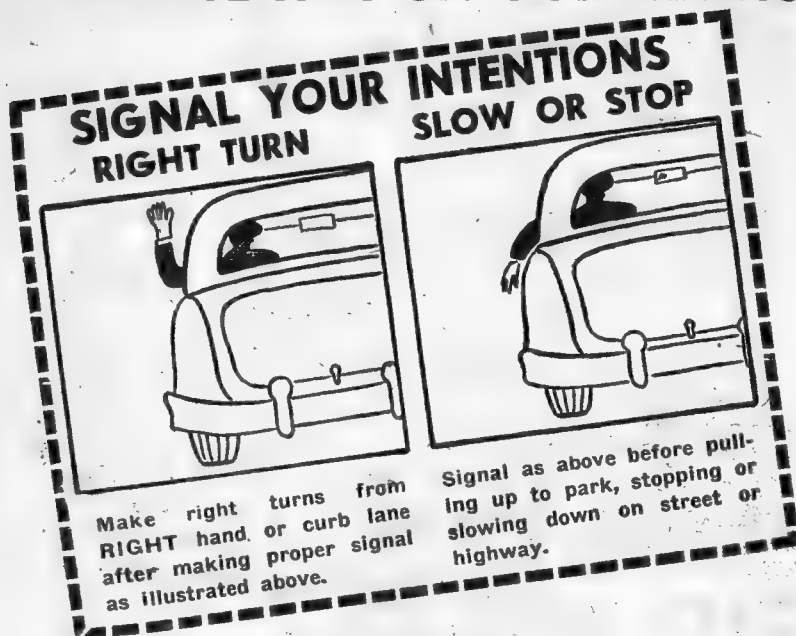
Taxes were \$55 millions, about 2 1/2 times dividends to shareholders. For each dollar of income, Imperial paid 10¢ in taxes and 4¢ in dividends. Tax figures do not include gasoline sales tax paid at the pump.

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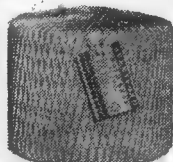
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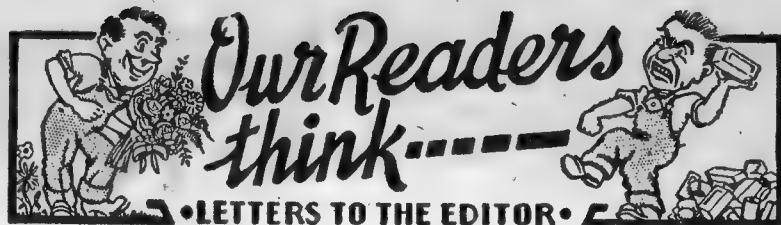
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Science and soils

To the Editor:

This is to say a word commending the excellent article by John R. Atkinson in the April, 1953, number of your journal. The method of farming suggested in the article seems to be both good farming and good science, since it points a way to much saving of effort while maintaining, and even increasing, the fertility of the soil.

In this district the major enterprise on many of the farms is dairying so that fertilizer is returned to the land as a matter of course. But there are occasional farmers who spend time and money bringing soil dressing materials long distances and one wonders if this is always necessary. In efforts to sweeten peaty land these farmers bring in marl or calcium hydroxide (from the manufacture of acetylene) or ashes. Yet near the peaty land there are large areas of sandy and silty land formed by the river in past ages and there is nearly always clay beneath the peat. A dressing of clay or sand, or, still better, mud from the river, would seem worth a trial for improving the yield of the peaty land.

The clay is rich in mineral matter needed for plant growth, including iron (6 or 7 per cent in some samples), lime (about 1 per cent) with a small amount of phosphorous and sufficient of the essential trace elements, as can easily be inferred from the appearance of the sheep and cattle raised here. A blue sand occurring several feet down in certain places contains an appreciable amount of copper and I suspect that the blue in the rock salt set out in the field for the cattle and sheep is unnecessary, although I did not detect cobalt in the samples that I examined.

Sir John Bennett Lawes made a fortune with his discovery of super phosphate fertilizer and this made possible Rothamstead and the brilliant work of R. A. Fisher. But to the practical farmer, Lawes' dogged experimentation over long years finally culminating in overwhelming evidence that plants cannot take nitrogen directly from the air is perhaps the most important work ever carried out in agriculture. From this follows the correct nitrogen cycle in nature and hence the emphasis on crops like clover which can accommodate nitrogen-fixing organisms, and on animals, for maintaining and increasing the fertility of the soil. An alert farmer should thus actually farm the land and

the air above it, annually transferring by nitrogen-fixing bacteria some of the nitrogen of the air to the land.

The great German chemist, Liebig looked upon Lawes as an amateur wasting his time, but Lawes, undaunted by the sarcastic letters, went on with his field experiments. Like other great scientists, Lawes was docile only towards the facts of Nature. Also like other top scientists Lawes had the individual outlook in science, a type of outlook that is often lacking in the employee scientist who has to conform to his master's wishes or to his department's wishes. Cavendish, Joule, Mendel, Bell, Edson, Burbank, to mention only a few very gifted men were all owner scientists except Mendel, who was an amateur scientist. And among such men Lawes was not the least.

Frank Charnley.

R.R. 1, Port Kells, B.C.

The crisis in education

To the Editor:

You may not know "what the solution to the problem" of improving education is, but you have definitely attempted to make certain that your readers will blame someone after reading your April editorial on "Educational Standards". After reading it we might almost find ourselves rising up with parents "in their righteous wrath" to take action against Dr. W. H. Swift and his colleagues. That is, until we paused to ask for the actual facts. Such editorials are irresponsible when based upon newspaper reports that are "confused and perhaps garbled" (to quote you again). In fact, in one place your's is not even correct, for Dr. Swift stated that the mathematics standard, in terms of amount of material to be actually covered, was to be lowered. But not the standard of achievement nor amount of material covered in the whole high school curriculum. Rather, the study of English will now have more time given to it with the subsequent demand for better results in that subject as well as in that mathematics which is to be covered.

For the sake of adult education would you please print exactly what was said, by whom and where, that gave you the idea that henceforth Canadian universities, other than the University of Alberta, will not accept our high school students who have their university matriculation?

In future, why not tackle the

problems objectively like Sidney Katz did in "The Crisis in Education" in Maclean's, March 1, 15, and April 1 issues?

Verna Jensen.

Box 485, Olds, Alta.

Defends Alta. system

To the Editor:

YOU have from time to time printed articles on rural electrification in Alberta. These have not given a very true picture to those who are not informed as to the situation.

The present system of installing power is strictly co-operation. Each farmer pays his fair share, but the well-off farmer in a district assists his less fortunate neighbor. The provincial government at present assists to the extent of guaranteeing a loan to the R.E.A. that is made at any local bank. This loan may not exceed 50% of the total capitalization of the proposed project. The interest rate is $3\frac{1}{2}\%$.

When the R.E.A. is formed, the district mapped, and farmers have signified their desire for power by a small deposit to the association the directors contact Farm Electric Services Ltd. (a non-profit subsidiary of Calgary Power) and obtain an estimate of the actual average cost to each farmer. The farmer, a mile and a quarter from his neighbor pays the same as the one a mere fraction. (In our area it worked out that many of those a mile or more away were the least able to pay an unreasonable cost).

If the depositors agree to continue, each farmer signs a contract with the Association and pays a down payment—say, the estimated cost is \$800, original deposit was \$50, perhaps the directors have decided that as the requirement is 50%, then they will request 50% down from each farmer, so \$350 is required from each farmer signing, balance \$100 yearly. If a farmer can afford \$750, then it is suggested that he pay it and save himself some interest. Then maybe quite a few are a bit short of cash at the time and cannot manage any part of \$350, so they are not signed on at once but directors meet and total the deposits already in and consider at what figure they can accept the rest of the farmers, say \$200, balance still \$100 yearly.

In our case, no one who approached the directors was denied power for lack of money. 175 farms received power and when the final actual cost was closed out, each farmer received a refund of \$200. I do not see any "gouge-the-farmer" in this. \$600 for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of line and placing transformer, switch-box and pole in the yard wherever requested. Could it be done for less? The system is not perfect and could be improved upon in many ways.

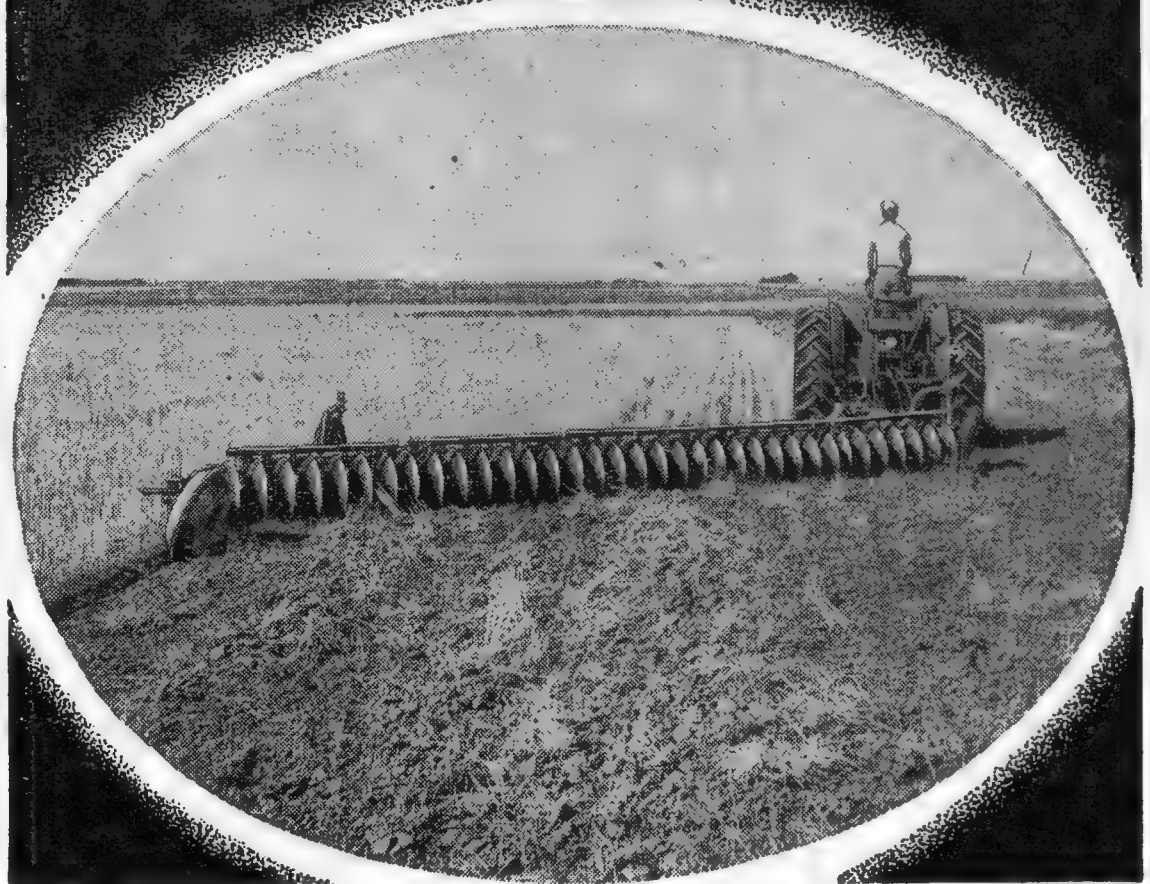
Mrs. E. L. Green.

Box 25, Iron Springs, Alta.

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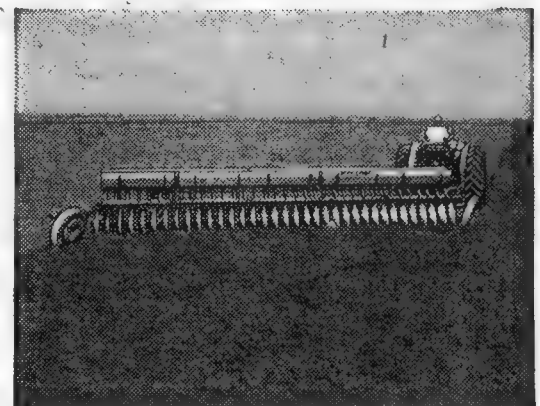
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Kindness and talent and the way you write

By DAVID MEYER

IN this article we will discuss the attributes of kindliness and selfishness, since they are often associated in our minds with people's attitudes to money.

A sure sign of a kind heart in writing is our friend the garland. You will recall that I discussed the garland in an earlier article as an indication of femininity. When the garland is found in rounded writing, we may have no doubts about the writer's good heart and intentions.

good heart and

Unfortunately, human nature is a complex and contradictory matter, and appearances, unless seen through, are often deceitful. We must not confuse rounded writing with circular writing. The latter tells us exactly the opposite story about a person from what rounded writing does.

Now observe what happens to the good-natured garland as it becomes circular in shape:

(1) *good* (2) *good* (3) *good*

Sample one has a rounded garland end-stroke. The writer is kind and gracious and truly sociable. He is unpretentious and sincere.

Sample two, which has a shovel-like end-stroke, that is, an enlarged garland, tells us a wholly different story. This writer only appears kind and sociable. Actually, he is demanding and never satisfied. He shows his best side to people only because he hopes to get something from them. Often he is naive and does not know how to use people. There is a strong infantile streak in him.

Sample three, with its circular end-stroke, that is, the garland almost becomes a circle, is a certain sign of selfishness and self-centredness. Such a writer rarely does or says anything without an ulterior motive. His right hand is never aware of what his left hand is doing. Ironically, he not only tries to hoodwink others as to his inten-

tions but he winds up deceiving himself, too.

I have received several letters from readers of the Farm and Ranch Review who differed with me on my interpretation of their talents. One chap wrote to me that he has been a salesman right along for a harvest-firm and, to the best of his knowledge, never had any technological inclinations.

It is a saving grace of the human being that he is endowed with many more capabilities than he is often aware of. The environment often plays a decisive role in determining what a man or woman does for a living. Where the environment is rich in cultural variety, such as a metropolis, the inhabitants are offered stimuli to their latent abilities that bring them out. But where the background is limited in its offerings, such as a farm community or small town, an individual may never know what's in him because he has never seen its counterpart outside of himself.

For instance, a farm lad of 26 wrote to me several months

ago, complaining that he doesn't know what he wants to do. He has done a little farming, some mechanics and machinery repair, and has worked behind the bar. He complained that he walks about with snatches of tunes buzzing in his head, tunes he never heard of before.

Now, when he writes his letter "I", first person pronoun, it strongly resembles the G-Clef of music. This boy has pronounced talents, a natural gift, for music. It often happens that a person's inner life will express itself symbolically in graphological signs. This profound inner wealth, like dreams and the wisdom of the Bible, often requires insight to be grasped.

If the environment offers the stimuli, the individual responds to them and finds himself. If it does not, he needs to seek them out for himself. I suggested to the lad that he take a correspondence course in music.

What does your handwriting reveal?

Are you a natural-born salesman or would you make a better mechanic? Have you got hidden talent for art, cookery or stenography? Would you be interested in getting the verdict of an expert on the character your handwriting reveals?

The Farm and Ranch has arranged with Mr. David Meyer, the author of this new and regular feature of the Farm and Ranch, to analyze the handwriting of its readers. Here are the rules:

Write at least 12 lines with pen and ink on good paper. Do NOT — repeat — NOT use a ball-point pen or pencil. Send it, together with 25 cents in coin: —

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Max. G.C.W.—
24,000 lbs.



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Truck Max. G.V.W.—
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Tractor-Trailer
Max. G.C.W.—
38,000 lbs.



F-600
SCHOOL BUS
Max. G.V.W.—
16,000 lbs.



F-900
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I'm sick of experts who unveil half the picture!

By ARTHUR MENKIN

AFTER reading a recent article in a trade journal, I sat down to write a real hot criticism of the biased reports, which appear all too often from people who are retained at public expense as agricultural authorities. By the time I located the dictionary and found how to spell ignoramus I had cooled down a lot; but these things cannot go on without completely undermining confidence in the experimental work and extension methods of all our government institutions.

The case in point is an article (with pictures) showing how a Manitoba farmer increased the yield of his barley by 19 bushels per acre by treating the seed with a fairly common fungicide. The author explains it this way: "... weeds grew faster and heavier on the untreated area ... the treated barley sprouted and emerged more quickly giving a thicker and stronger stand. By actual count that part of the field planted to treated seed showed 92 per cent more barley plants per square yard ... the big and final advantage for the treated part of the field lies in the yield per acre—31.7 bushels as against only 12.8 on the untreated area." And he goes on to say: "... farmers have been slow in adopting seed treatment."

Who Says So?

This last statement seems unfair and uncalled for. Farmers recognized seed treatment as a necessary evil long before they ever heard of Technical Agriculturists or Agrologists as they now call themselves. The writer helped administer the "bluestone" treatment in his boyhood days — on a farm where seed treatment every

year was considered the safest and therefore the best policy.

Many of our neighbors treated only when they knew there was some smut in the locality. Threshing machines spread it pretty effectively in those times, so seed treatment was recognized as necessary when ever there was any smut around. It was considered as an evil because the handling and storing of chemicals on a farm has always been a nuisance, and a hazard to people and livestock alike.

As the years have passed, seed-testing laboratories have been established with ways of detecting the presence of smut in seed grain. At the same time many new treatments have developed and lavish claims have been made for most of them; but the scientists who have made a special study of this matter have limited their recommendations. Some of them advise "... if there is the least indication of any smut being present the seed should be treated."

On the other hand if no smut is present they advise that treatment is unnecessary, and have warned that grain which has been injured by frost or severe weathering may suffer further injury from treatment, and should not be treated unless it is smutty. Others state that a great deal of money is wasted each year by treating smut-free seed. These statements have been made with full knowledge of claims of benefit to the crop from the control of various "seed-borne diseases" other than smut.

It took the experts about 20 years to talk us out of using formalin for treating seed. They were genuinely concerned about the injury caused by the treat-

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ment, but it is amusing to note the kind of a soaking in formalin which the experimentalists had conjured up for their comparisons. One of the last descriptions of this treatment to be found in a bulletin reads like this: "Use 1 pound of formalin to 30 gallons of water. This amount will treat about 40 bushels."

Seed Pickling

You could make 40 bushels of wheat take up 30 gallons of water if you had enough patience or if you soaked it in a tank. Some of the "pickling" machines used up the solution about that fast too, and the surplus drained down through the wagon box and soaked the wheat in the bottom of the load till it came out looking like frumenty. These machines found their way to the scrap piles within one or two years.

Featuring the unusual is a risky practice; but it is becoming more common in this age of heroics in the field of agricultural science. The more people we employ to man the growing establishments for research and extension, the more they vie with each other for the centre of the stage. Nothing attracts attention like an unusual result; and nothing is more misleading.

It remains a mystery how such striking results are obtained as those reported from Manitoba; but the agrologist reporting them must realize they are unusual to say the least. Surely he has noted other tests where seed treatments did not affect the yield; and results have been reported where seed treatment seemed to depress the yield. Of course the reports of depressed yields are never sifted out and presented separately.

The tendency is to give the publicity to tests that show a yield increase from any kind of agricultural chemical whether it be fertilizer, fungicide, insecticide, or herbicide. Skilful management of soil and crops would often serve the purpose better, but the farmers is left to discover that for himself.

In The Meantime

Fill up my tank Bill, and I'll be off to spray,
I'll purge the scourge of leafy spurge,
If it takes 'til Judgment Day.
It was on the Russian thistle
That Grandpa won his fame.
He fought a right good battle too,
But lost it just the same.
His forces were divided then
With other things to fight,
Wild oats, couch grass, and stink-weed too,
All added to his plight.
They got so all-fired common on
The fields and roadside too,
A weed inspector soon found there
Was nothing he could do.

So
Fill up my tank Bill, and I'll be off to spray,
I'll purge the scourge of leafy spurge,
If it takes 'til Judgment Day.
Sow thistle next became the rage,
'Twas in my father's time.
They started using chlorate then,
(A pound just cost a dime);
But the cost to kill an acre
Came to a hundred bucks.
If farmers had to spend that much
They scratched and said, "Oh shucks—"
"If the Portage plains are ruined
With thistles like you say,
I'll homestead by Peace River so
I'll not be in their way."

So
Fill up my tank Bill, and I'll be off to spray,
I'll purge the scourge of leafy spurge,
If it takes 'til Judgment Day.
In mountain valleys of B.C.
Grow smartweed, bracken, tansies,
Diffuse knapweed, and leafy spurge,
Hedge bindweed (cute as pansies).
Although they're fought with youthful vim
Through fields and rural lanes,
The 'Act Respecting Noxious Weeds'
Does not record their names.

But
Fill up my tank Bill, and I'll be off to spray,
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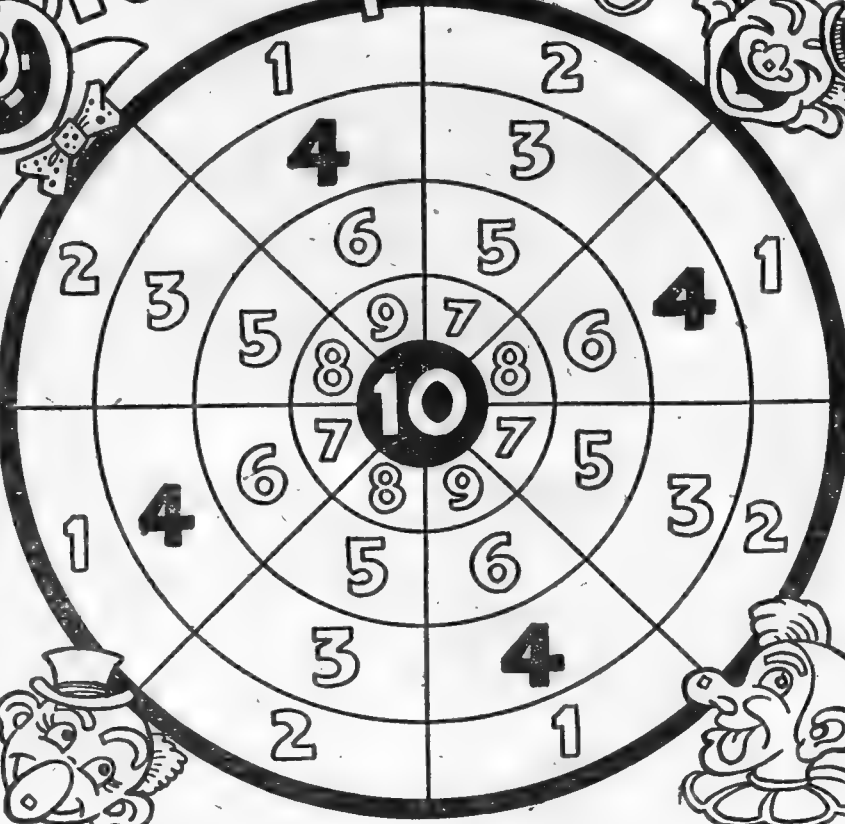
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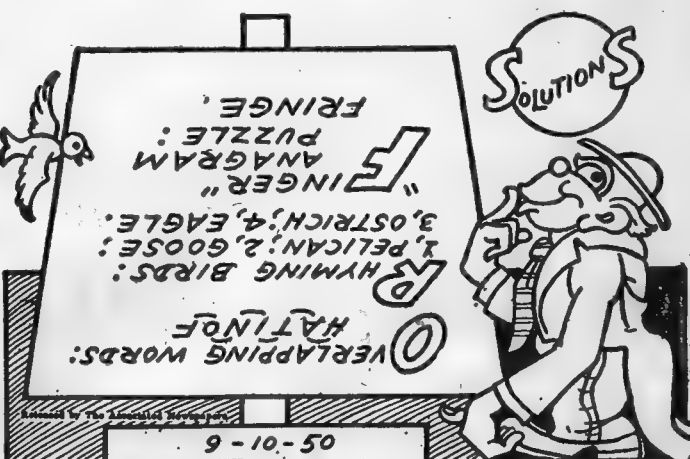
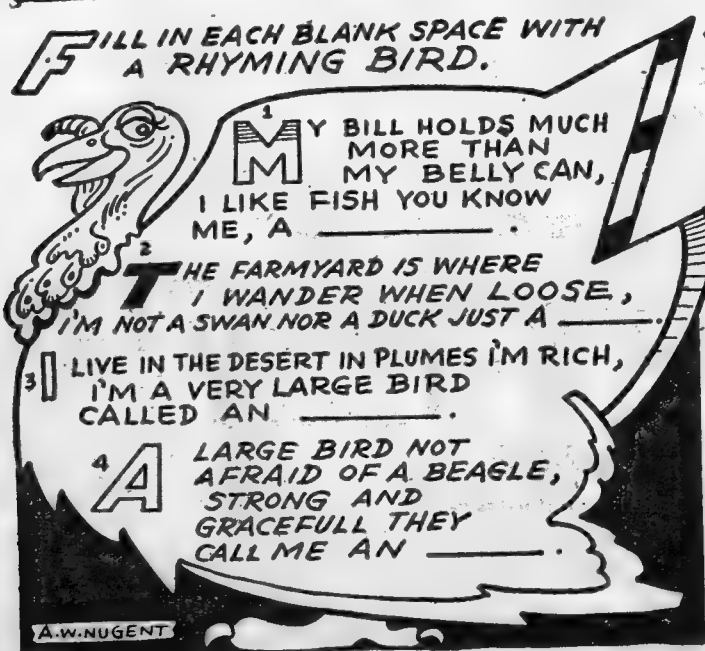
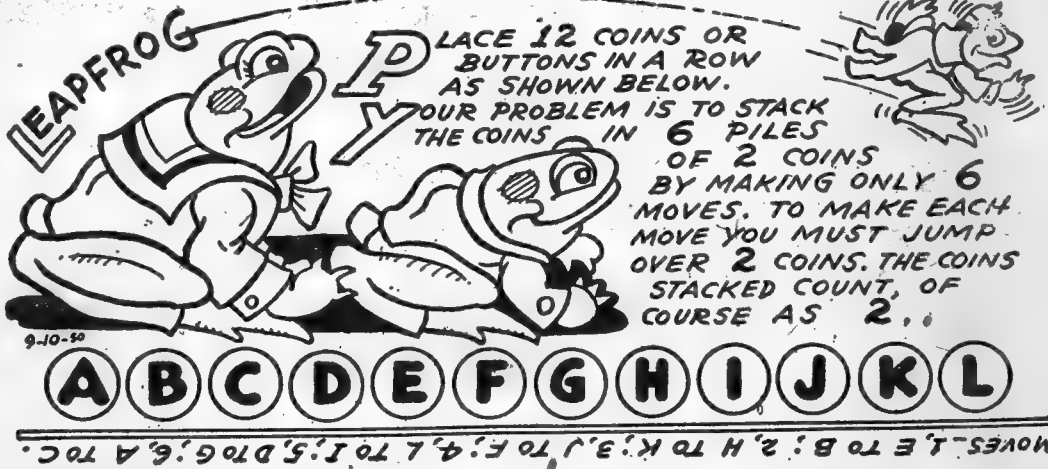
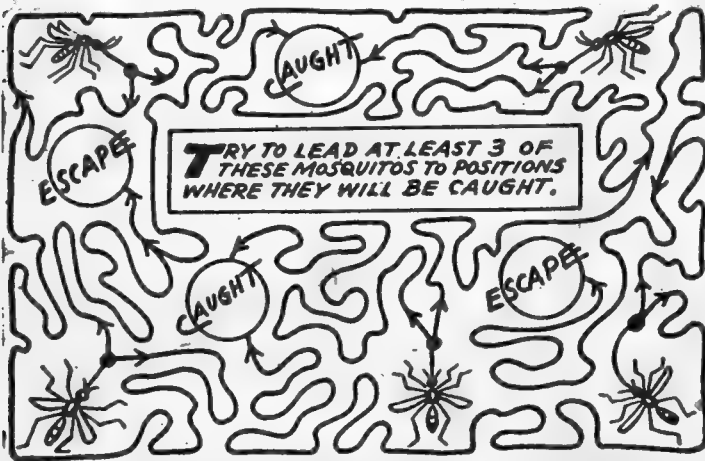
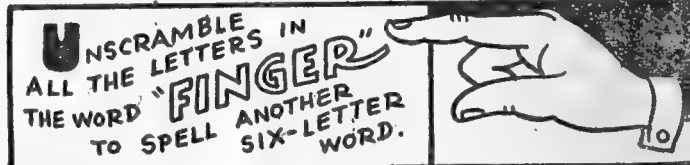
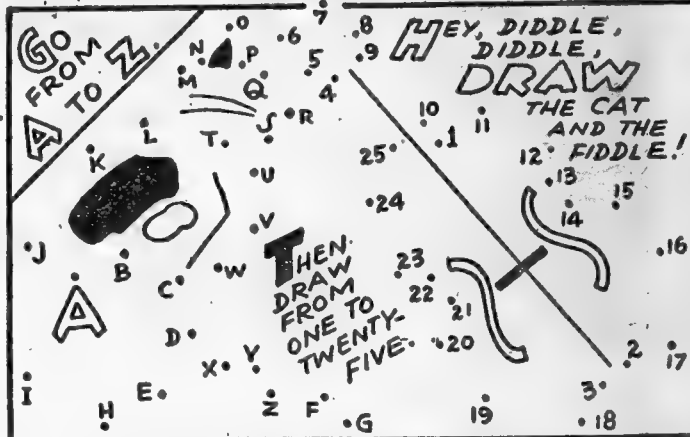


TAKE TURNS, WITH TWO OR MORE PLAYERS, BY DROPPING A TOOTHPICK ON THE CHART FROM ABOUT A FOOT ABOVE IT. ADD ALL THE NUMBERS THAT ARE IN THE SECTIONS TOUCHED BY THE TOOTHPICK. THE PLAYER WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE, AFTER FIVE TRIALS, WINS.



TRY TO FORM SIX TWO-LETTER WORDS WHICH OVERLAP EACH OTHER, BY USING UP ALL THESE SEVEN LETTERS, "HOT, I FAN."

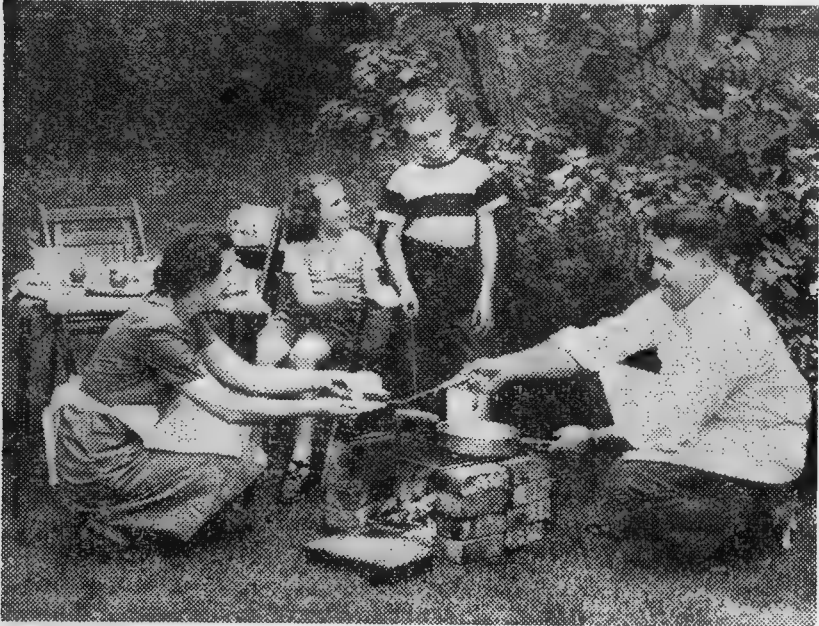
FOR EXAMPLE, LASOFAM



Farm and Ranch Housewife

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE RURAL WOMEN OF WESTERN CANADA

Cooking tips for outdoor meals



By LOUISE PRICE BELL

THERE'S something about eating in the open that helps fulfill man's desire to get back to nature.

During the summer months, it's fun to pack up the makings for Sunday's dinner and cook it in the open. For these outings, include foods which are easy to prepare and you'll have the rest of the day free for outdoor relaxation.

Improvised Fireplace

You don't need special equipment for outdoor cooking. The meats may be cooked on a rack or a flat metal plate or both. The rack for the fireplace can be an oven rack (one from your range or an old one set aside for this purpose). For the cooking plate, you can use a sturdy cookie sheet. Support these on large flat stones, bricks or two logs.

Before cooking, let the fire burn down to a bed of glowing coals. Rub the rack or plate with fat to prevent the meats from sticking. The fuel may be either charcoal or wood. Use dry, hard woods, such as oak, elm, maple or hickory.

Take along several different kinds of meats for the picnic grill and let everyone join in the fun of being chef for a day. As shown in the illustration, you might offer a choice of frankfurters wrapped in bacon, ground beef patties and barbecued bologna slices.

Picnic Grill

Picnic Patties — Season each pound of ground beef with 1 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper. For extra juicy hamburgers, add 1/4 cup cold water per pound of meat. Shape patties before leaving home and wrap in waxed paper. For easy separation, place a square of waxed paper between each patty. Fry on a hot greased grill.

Barberpole Franks — Wrap each frankfurter with a strip of

bacon and fasten with a toothpick. (This can be done before leaving home.) Fry on a hot, greased grill, turning to cook bacon on all sides.

Barbecued Bologna — Slice bologna 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick and brown on hot, greased grill. While slices brown, spoon barbecue sauce over them.

Complete the menu with buns, olives and pickles, crisp celery and carrot sticks, a salad if you wish, coffee, milk and fresh cherry pie.

Here's a recipe for a good barbecue sauce to spoon on the bologna as it cooks. Make it at home and carry to the picnic spot in a jar.

Picnic Barbecue Sauce

- 1 tablespoon fat
- 1/4 cup chopped onion
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1/2 cup catsup
- 2 tablespoons vinegar
- 1/4 cup water

Cook onion in hot fat. Add all other ingredients and simmer, uncovered for 10 minutes.

Hunting Milk



Miss Margaret Therens, Milestone, Sask., won \$3 for this snap of the family cat trying to raid the ice-box.

Jam made this Way is Delicious... Firm... Sparkling



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GOLDEN COCONUT PIE



1 recipe flaky pastry; 2 tablespoons butter or margarine; 1/4 cup granulated sugar; 2 eggs, beaten; 1/4 cup teaspoon salt; 1 1/2 cups ROGERS' GOLDEN SYRUP; 1 teaspoon lemon juice; 1 1/4 cups shredded coconut.

Cream butter, add sugar, well beaten eggs, salt, ROGERS' GOLDEN SYRUP, and lemon juice. Fold in coconut. Pour into pastry-lined pie plate. Bake at 425°F for 15 minutes, reduce to 350°F and bake 30 minutes longer.

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Let's Ask Aunt Sal...

THOSE of you who have been patient enough to follow this column regularly may recall my mentioning the first letter that came to me from the United States. Later on the first letter came from an English reader. Since that time several other ladies living in these countries have sent letters of enquiry or comment.

But recently a letter came that really made me sit up and rub my eyes in wonderment, for it bore the postmark of Portugal, South America! And so two truths are brought to our attention... first — The Farm and Ranch Review really gets around... second — we homemakers are all pretty much the same wherever we may live, and we face pretty much the same problems. I am giving our South American neighbor the first place and her query was:

Q.: Could you find a recipe for home made furniture polish? (Mrs. D.F.D., Colonia Somerfield, No. 8, Asuncion, Paraguay, S.A.)

A.: Here is one of the easiest furniture polishes I know of. Combine equal portions of linseed oil, turpentine and cider vinegar. Apply with a soft, lintless cloth.

Q.: Where can I buy these Mexican designs that are embroidered on little girls' blazers? (Mrs. W.D.R., Derwent, Alta.)

A.: If you are not close to a store that stocks embroidery patterns then write to the McCall Patterns, 635 Queen St., East, Toronto 8, Ontario. I am sure I saw these in one of their pattern books.

Q.: Could you give me a recipe for a good fruit punch (without liquor) to serve about 120 guests at a wedding? (Mrs. A.E.C., Cowley, Alberta.)

A.: This question comes in pretty frequently as the time for weddings and picnics arrive.

FRUIT PUNCH (for about 120 people)

20 lbs. sugar, 10 qts. lemon juice, 10 qts. orange juice, 10 qts. grape juice, 13 gallons of water, ice cubes. (pineapple juice may be substituted for the grape juice if you don't like the purple color). Pour sugar into clean crock. Add fruit juices and stir until dissolved. Add water and keep cool. Add ice cubes well before serving.

Q.: I notice mention made of the sunbonnet and the overall boy patterns for quilts. I would be pleased to have both of these if you can supply. (Mrs. L.C.H., Dunster, B.C.)

A.: I have had several requests for these and am sorry that I cannot supply them. I had several of the former some time back but gave them all away. I am told that they are now out of print.

Q.: Having recently bought a home freezer I am anxious to gain information on how to prepare cakes and pies to place in it to have ready for unexpected company. (Mrs. R.S., Brock, Sask.)

A.: I have only been using a home freezer for 6 months so count myself still a novice but your dealer should have given you a book of instructions with yours and all the good women's magazines are devoting space to this too. This is the general rule for freezing cakes and pies. Freeze the pies either raw or cooked (I like them best frozen raw). Cakes may be frozen baked but not iced. Only icing without egg whites freezes well. And of course you must obtain the proper wrappings for them. For cakes and pies I use plastic bags and fasten the top securely with an elastic band.

Q.: I wish you would pass on more of the sour milk and sour cream recipes that you have told us you received in such large numbers. (Many have written in for these.)

A.: I admit I did receive about 200 recipes from rural readers in this class but I honestly could not tackle the colossal job of making copies of these to share with you all... much as I'd like to. See my other page for one fine recipe for sour milk cookies.

Q.: Could you find the recipe for cucumber pickles that was in the old Five Roses Cook Book (Repeat) Mrs. A.C., Stauffer, Alta.

A.: My sincere thanks go out to six readers who went to the work of looking up this recipe and copying it.

Cucumber Pickles

9 green cukes and 4 onions chopped fine. Let stand in brine for several hours. Drain and add the following dressing and boil 3 min.

Dressing: 1/2 cup flour, 1/2 cup sugar, 1 qt. vinegar, 2 tblsp. mustard, dash of cayenne pepper, 1 tblsp. celery seed, dash of salt.

NOTE: All readers are invited to send in their home making problems to Aunt Sal in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. Because of the large number of letters submitted to this department it is better to enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope to assure yourself of a reply. There is no charge for this service.

It is best to wash your nylon stockings every day. During wear the stocking is stretched out of shape. Warm water washing will cause the stocking to spring back into shape and the elasticity is thus preserved.

Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

*June is the month of roses,
And brides hold the first place;
But how about the rest of us,
Who make up the human race?*

IT always touches my heart when you readers write in and tell me there is going to be a wedding at your place, and I start in hunting up large scale recipes that you ask for to serve to the wedding guests. And then you tell me you are all a dither about the proper etiquette about seating guests, what to wear and all the rest of the problems that go along with such important events. I don't deny that I get a real thrill out of every one of these weddings in which I like to think I play a small unseen part.

But of course for the majority of us our every day living is plodding along at an even keel. This month I have had my little 5-year-old grand daughter visiting me while the stork was bringing her little sister to their home. Just a few minutes ago her shrill little voice called out from the bedroom: "Grannie, are you writing for the Farm and Ranch Review?" Throughout all her short life she has heard her Grannie's typewriter tapping away and she understands (but doesn't always approve) that I have to spend time at my desk. She can think of so much better ways for me to put in my time. How she begged me to take time out today and help her make mud pies in the back yard. And when I did finally 'knock off' and go out to sit in one of the lawn chairs I found the arms of the chairs entirely covered with rows and rows of mud pastry drying in the sun. No I didn't displace them. I lay down on a rug on the grass instead. She had worked far harder at her baking than I had at mine. Although I think mine was a little more edible. At least I hope so. You try this recipe and see. Buttermilk Rolled-Oats Cookies (sent in by Mrs. V.C.K., Beaverlodge, Alta.

This makes a large batch I baked half and froze the other half.

1 cup shortening, 1 cup white sugar (I used brown), 2 tblsp.

peanut butter, 1/3 cup golden syrup, 2 eggs, (combine these five and beat well.)

Then place these in sifter. 2 cups pastry flour, 1 tsp. baking soda, 1 tsp. nutmeg, 1/3 tsp. salt. Add to first mixture and then alternately add 2 cups rolled oats and 1/3 cup sour or butter milk. I also added 1 cup raisins and 1/2 cup nuts). Bake in medium oven until golden brown.

I do appreciate it when some of you feel the urge to write me newsy, friendly letters just as if I were 'one of the family'. Just such a letter came to me from Mrs. C.S., Creston, B.C. She told me about washing a big heavy quilt and the washing machine 'blew a fuse' right in the middle of the operation so she had to finish the job by hand, but she was rewarded by having the quilt turn out so soft and fluffy and clean! Maybe she can be thankful the washing machine did go on strike for alas we often ruin things like quilts and blankets by over running the machine or having the water too hot.

These modern washing aids such as bleaches or detergents are fine . . . if we don't use them in too large doses. Far better to have a bleach too weak than too strong. (I'll bet you've found that out by hard experience too). I learned a new trick about one way to use one of the advertised detergents. Just before you empty the bath tub sprinkle some detergent around the 'high water mark' and that unlikeable ring will almost chase itself away. I keep a box in the bathroom now for just that purpose and I've quilt using the harsher cleanser altogether for the basin and tub. Some women go further and sprinkle some of the detergent in the tub (while Mary or Jimmie is in there soaking). But I don't think that is very good for a child's skin. They do get dirty I grant you, but not that dirty.

Bye bye for now . . . and every good wish.

Aunt Sal.

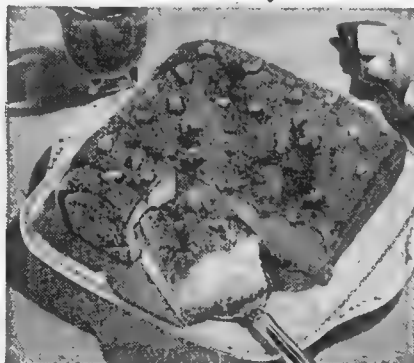
The Dishpan Philosopher

NOW city folks are on the wing to take their little annual fling. With speeding cars the roads are jammed, all to the limit fully crammed with young and old pleasure bent with time and money to be spent. For planes and trains and ships as well the tickets sell and sell and sell, as folks go roaming near and far to get away from where they are. By mountain trail and beach they range, all needing, so they say, a change. Some even spent their time on farms enthusing over rural charms. It's really pretty nice, I'd say to go on holidays — with pay!

Well, scenery, fresh air and such, that city people miss so much are ours, out here, the whole year round. The only drawback I have found to their enjoyment, so to speak, is my one-hundred-plus-hour-week!

One Basic Dough makes 4 yummy dessert treats!

1. Cinnamon Square



2. Apricot Figure 8



3. Fruit Coil



4. Sugared Jelly Buns



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1. CINNAMON SQUARE

Combine 1/4 cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon; sprinkle on board. Place one portion of dough on sugar mixture and roll into a 12-inch square; fold dough from back to front, then from left to right; repeat this rolling and folding twice, using a little flour on the board, if necessary; seal edges. Place in greased 8-inch square pan; press out to edges. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Cream 2 tbsps. butter or margarine, 1/4 cup granulated sugar and 1/4 tsp. cinnamon; mix in 1/4 cup broken walnuts and 1 tsp. milk. Spread over risen dough. Bake at 350°, 30 to 35 mins.

2. APRICOT FIGURE EIGHT

Combine 1/4 cup brown sugar, 1 tbsps. flour, 1/4 tsp. mace and 1/4 cup finely-chopped nuts. Roll out one portion of dough into a rectangle about 22 by 6 inches. Spread with 2 tbsps. soft butter or margarine; sprinkle with nut mixture. Fold dough lengthwise into 3 layers. Twist dough from end to end; form into figure 8 on greased pan. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, about 30 mins. Fill crevices of hot figure 8 with thick apricot jam; spread other surfaces with white icing; sprinkle with nuts.

3. FRUIT COIL

Knead into one portion of dough, 2 tbsps. grated orange rind, 1/4 cup raisins, 1/4 cup chopped nuts and 1/4 cup well-drained cut-up red and green maraschino cherries. Roll out dough, using the hands, into a rope about 30 inches long. Beginning in the centre of a greased deep 8-inch round pan, swirl rope loosely around and around to edge of pan. Brush with 2 tbsps. melted butter or margarine; sprinkle with mixture of 1/4 cup granulated sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Cover and let rise until doubled. Bake at 350°, 35 to 40 mins.

4. SUGARED JELLY BUNS

Cut one portion of dough into 12 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball; roll in melted butter or margarine, then in granulated sugar. Place, well apart, on greased pan; flatten slightly. Cover and let rise until doubled. Form an indentation in the top of each bun by twisting the handle of a knife in the top; fill with jelly. Cover and let rise 15 mins. longer. Bake at 350°, 15 to 18 mins.

Basic COFFEE CAKE Dough

Scald

2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a large bowl

1/2 cup lukewarm water

2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved. Sprinkle with contents of

2 envelopes Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well. Stir in lukewarm milk and

4 well-beaten eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift together twice

7 cups once-sifted bread flour

1/2 cup granulated sugar

1 tablespoon salt

Stir about 6 cupfuls into the yeast mixture; beat until smooth and elastic.

Work in remaining dry ingredients and 2 1/2 cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 4 equal portions and finish as follows:



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Get thin on good food

MILK, potatoes and whole grain porridges are too often dropped from the adult diet because they are considered fattening. Fattening is an incorrect term to use in regard to these foods. As a matter of fact, most foods could be called fattening. The wise thing to do is to keep eating such good foods as potatoes, milk and whole grain porridges and, if necessary, cut down on the amount of pies, cakes and rich puddings that are eaten. The home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, say that there are many milk desserts that are smooth and tempting to both the eyes and the taste but which do not have too many calories. They are made with skimmilk powder instead of cream.

Skimmilk is whole milk with most of the fat removed. Some of the vitamins are lost with the fat but all the other important nutrients are in the milk. Skimmilk has almost as much food value as whole milk, but because it lacks fat it has fewer calories. As a matter of fact, an 8-ounce glass of skimmilk contains between 65 and 70 calories less than an 8-ounce glass of whole milk. For this reason, skimmilk is included in most reducing diets.

Skimmilk powder is such a thrifty buy that homemakers should use it often in cooking. It can be used in every way that whole milk is used, and for in-

creased food value, a little extra powder may be added. However, it is not wise to increase the amount of skimmilk powder to the point where there is a definite milk powder flavor.

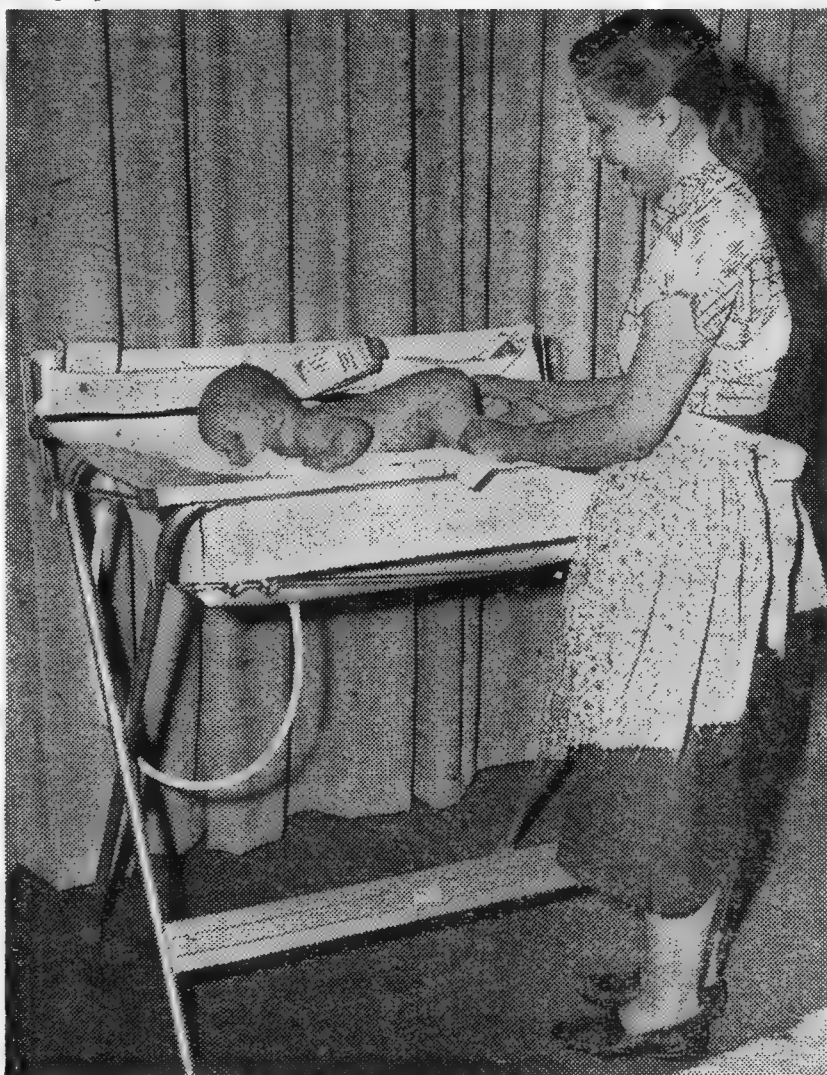
Skimmilk powder may be stored on the kitchen shelf if the container is kept tightly closed. Once the powder is mixed with water, it should be treated like fresh milk, kept covered and cold.

The Consumer Section has an excellent booklet, "Skimmilk Powder", which is available free from the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. In the booklet there is a very good recipe for homemade ice cream made with skimmilk powder instead of cream. When made with skimmilk powder, the ice cream of course has not nearly as many calories as when it is made with cream. If any member of the family is watching their calories, this ice cream is smooth, tempting and flavorful, and not too costly in calories.

The home economists of the Consumer Section, Canada Department of Agriculture, suggest to us that there are many ways of using ice cream. It can be served with angel or sponge cake or with chocolate cake and jelly roll. For an extra special dessert, the hole in the centre of an angel cake may be filled with ice cream, then the whole cake iced with whipped cream. When the cake is served, it should be cut in wedges so that there will be a piece of cake and ice cream for each person. For any of these desserts, the homemaker may use commercially made ice cream or ice cream which she has prepared in the home. It is interesting to note that commercially made ice cream must contain 10 per cent by weight of milk fat. The percentage weight of milk fat in homemade ice cream depends of course upon the amount of cream used in the recipe.

Pie a la mode is often restricted to apple pie. This does not need to be so, for a scoop

Enjoy that bath!



By LOUISE PRICE BELL

IF you're a very young mother with your first baby, you often feel "rushed to death", because of your many duties. But baby has to have a bath every day of his life, and so instead of hurrying through it, DO plan to give it when you won't feel so rushed that you can't enjoy it! Babies are small all too short a time and grow rapidly, as you will realize when you are older. Every minute of their infancy is so precious that we should not fail to squeeze the maximum of pleasure from our associations with them. If you think through on the things you have to do each day you will find that there will be some time when you are more free and can give Baby his bath in an unhurried manner. Never mind if morning is supposed to be the proper time to bathe the baby. Just because most mothers do it then is no reason why it has to be, so long as the baths are given each day and at the same time. If it is easier for you to bathe the baby after the dinner work is done and you are dressed for the afternoon, or for a trip to town, do it then ... and really enjoy the whole affair!

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of ice cream piled on top of any warm fragrant pie or dessert, is just what everyone enjoys, and a lavish spoonful on top of ginger bread gives it a party air.

Homemade Chocolate Ice Cream (Made with Skimmilk Powder)

- 1 teaspoon gelatine
- 1 tablespoon cold water
- ½ cup skimmilk powder
- ⅛ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 square unsweetened chocolate
- 1 cup hot water
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup skimmilk powder
- ½ cup water

Soak gelatine in the 1 tablespoon cold water. Combine sugar, the ¼ cup skimmilk powder, salt and cornstarch. Melt chocolate, add hot water and stir until blended. Gradually add to dry ingredients, and cook over hot water 15 minutes, stirring constantly until mixture thickens. Add soaked gelatine stirring until dissolved. Add vanilla. Cool. Pour into freezing tray and chill until firm. Whip the ½ cup skimmilk powder and ½ cup water until stiff, about 5 minutes. Put frozen mixture into a bowl and break up with a fork. Add whipped milk powder and beat with fork until well blended. Return to freezing tray and freeze until firm, about 2 hours. Stir once or twice during freezing. Yield: 6 to 8 servings.

Variations: Omit the chocolate from either of the recipes and substitute any of the following:

Almond Ice Cream: Add ½ cup chopped browned almonds or 1 teaspoon almond extract flavoring to basic recipe.

Banana Ice Cream: Add pulp of 2 bananas, rubbed through sieve, and 1 tablespoon lemon juice to basic recipe.

Caramel Ice Cream: Caramelize ¼ cup sugar; add 2 tablespoons water and cook until smooth. Add this to basic recipe.

Cherry Ice Cream: Add ½ cup finely chopped maraschino cherries to basic recipe.

Chocolate Chip Ice Cream: Add ½ cup chopped semi-sweet chocolate to basic recipe.

Coffee Ice Cream: Scald 3 tablespoons finely ground coffee with the water. Strain and finish as basic recipe.

Fruit Ice Cream: Add one of the following and 1 tablespoon lemon juice (if desired) to basic recipe:

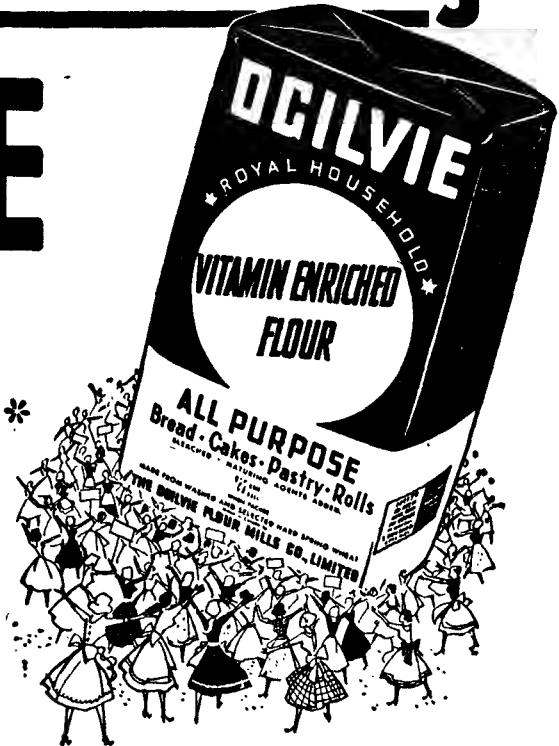
1. 1 cup sweetened strawberry pulp and juice.
2. 1 cup sweetened raspberry pulp and juice.
3. 1 cup sweetened crushed peaches and juice.
4. 1 cup crushed pineapple (drained).
5. ¼ cup crushed pineapple (drained) and 1/3 cup finely chopped maraschino cherries.

Ginger Ice Cream: Add ¼ cup preserved ginger, finely cut, and 1 tablespoon ginger syrup to the basic recipe.

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Canadians know about U.S. but not about Canada

By WANDA BEAUMONT

IN many of our Canadian classrooms today there is about the same enthusiasm for teaching national pride as an American waitress shows in brewing a cup of tea—and we get about the same lukewarm results.

A Canadian who spends any time in the United States usually adopts the coffee habit and avoids the lukewarm tea. This is chiefly because the American feels that if coffee is their drink it should be universal — and so it is becoming!

However, the American enthusiasm for coffee is mild compared with the enthusiasm for America. If we could absorb their fervent zeal for national pride to the same extent, and with the same ease that we have their coffee habit we undoubtedly would produce better than lukewarm citizens.

Perhaps we have a tendency to miss the trees in our own back yard while viewing the distant forest. Young Johnnie Brown in grade three has learn-

ed all about a Chinese pagoda, Susan Smith in grade five can give a detailed description of life in Holland. But can they, or any of their contemporaries, tell the story of the beginning of their own home town? How many of them know the romantic stories connected with the building of the great railways across the Dominion? And are they acquainted with those who pioneered in ranching, farming or mining in their own locale? It's very doubtful!

Our Great Men

For a nation that has a history so full of romance and adventure we should be able to sell it in our classrooms with more enthusiasm. It is high time that our university freshmen at least know the first and the current Prime ministers by name. They should be nearly as familiar with the life story of Sir John A. McDonald as they are with the story of Abe Lincoln.

A fifteen year old American visitor to one of our National parks expressed our need rather pointedly when he made the comment that "You Canadians sure are funny" On being asked why, he described us pretty accurately when he said, "Well, I come from down in the Ozarks and down there we don't hardly know anything about Canada but up here you talk more about us Americans than you do about yourselves".

Another tourist, travelling in Alberta, who wished to absorb a bit of local color, stopped at a service station near Calgary. While his car was being serviced he entered into conversation with a teen age lad standing near by.

"I passed a large building on the highway coming in from the south called the Lacombe Home. Just what is it?"

"It's a home for old people," the boy replied.

"Who founded it?"

"Lacombe, I guess."

"And who was he?"

"Oh, just some old guy that probably did something special in the early day."

(Continued on page 38)

Answers to Canadian Quiz

1. Southern Vancouver Island.
2. Saskatchewan.
3. Saskatchewan.
4. McGill University.
5. About 34° F.
6. Prince Edward Duke of Kent.
7. Nearly 3½ per square mile.
8. 70 per cent.
9. Emerson.
10. About 4,000 and 30,000 respectively.

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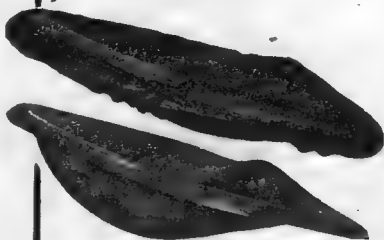
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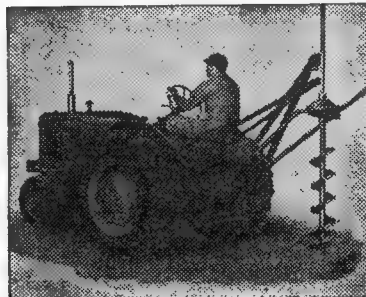
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Country Diary

WORDS cannot be found to rightly describe the loveliness or capture the beauty of the country scene at this time.

Spring, dallying and hesitating, has at last hurried into summer, and the queen of months is here, a coronation month in truth. June, "Leafy June," how bright and young are your sweet-smelling leaves to eyes accustomed to dark outlines for so long! June, the month to rejoice in! The birds sing again, in pure delight from day to day, just as they did three thousand years ago, when Solomon said of Judean spring, "The time of the singing of birds is come".

The robin carols to the sun, turning his head to see all this new green beauty of tree and field. Finches and blackbirds and meadowlarks shower the countryside with melody. Crows are holding solemn conventions in the poplars, and busy parents are putting final touches to nurseries, green-headed mallards are mating in the creek, and everywhere is chitter-chatter and bustle and great comings and goings together with dawn-chant and evensong.

Music is the expression of well-being and happiness among the feathered tribes, and it blends perfectly with Nature's gay colors. A sheen of delicate jade is spreading over the fields of late-sown crops, there are masses of dandelions [albeit a n a t h e m a] flaunting their flame in every available spot, and the caragana

hedge is covered with golden pendants.

Soon the magic of lilac will appear — how fortunate is the one who possesses this fragrant Persian beauty. Farm life cannot be lonely, or "isolated" as some city dwellers are fond of describing it, if like Thoreau of Walden Pond, or English Hudson and Richard Jefferies one lives with Nature.

In turn I have often pitied these people cooped up within walls during these first fresh June days, in stores, offices, schools — where students bend in solemn absorption above a collection of erudite words and symbols, cramming the last pages of factual knowledge before the fateful day, while the breeze calls, the lake ripples, and little lanes of loveliness lead away from bricks and concrete to green spaces. The friendship of Nature is one of the things worth living for, and tired souls and minds turn to her in the end.

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(Continued from page 36)

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"Nope, I wasn't here then." Considering that subject well taken care of he asked, "Where are you from?"

"We're from San Francisco."

"Gee! I'd sure like to see that place. Isn't that the city that was mixed up in a gold rush and where they had a big earthquake in 1906?"

The tourist was puzzled.

"Yes," he said, "But how is it

that you know so much about San Francisco and can't tell me about this man Lacombe?"

"Well," said the youngster, running his fingers through his hair, "No one ever told me about Lacombe and everyone is always talking about the States."

How can we sell ourselves to our neighbors if we are not doing a good selling job to ourselves? The time is long passed, if it ever existed, when we should take the apologetic ap-

proach or when we need to borrow illustrious characters from other countries. Surely, for example, there is someone in the history of our nation who found enough satisfaction from not telling a lie that we can illustrate our point and still allow George Washington to rest on his nostalgic laurels.

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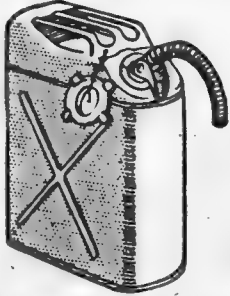
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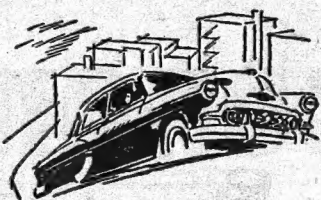
1st Place with Fisher Body Quality!

Chevrolet's rugged Body by Fisher is now even more outstanding in styling, in comfort and conveniences, in quality of workmanship and materials. Visibility is greater with the new one-piece windshield and panoramic rear window. Construction is heavier, and more rigid, for even greater safety. Interiors are roomier with finer fabrics and more handsome appointments.



1st Place with High Compression Power!

The new 115-h.p. "Blue-Flame" valve-in-head engine teamed with the new Powerglide automatic transmission as an option at extra cost on "Two-Ten" and Bel Air models has an extra high compression ratio of 7.5 to 1. In gearshift models, you get the new 108-h.p. high-compression "Thrifty-King" engine. Both bring you far finer performance on far less gasoline!



1st Place with Powerglide and Power Steering!

Chevrolet's new Powerglide, optional at extra cost, on the Bel Air and Two-Ten series is the newest, most advanced automatic transmission in its field. A new automatic starting and passing range gives you flashing get-away from a standing start, or for passing in city driving. Power Steering — optional at extra cost with Powerglide — lets you steer and park with finger-tip ease, and drive with greater safety everywhere.



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This year's Chevrolet brings you the most important gain in economy in Chevrolet's entire 40-year history! You go much farther on every gallon of gas (regular gas, at that). You save on overall costs of operation and upkeep. You save every mile you drive with this great new '53 Chevrolet. Yes, with all its higher quality and new features, Chevrolet is again Canada's finest low-priced car!



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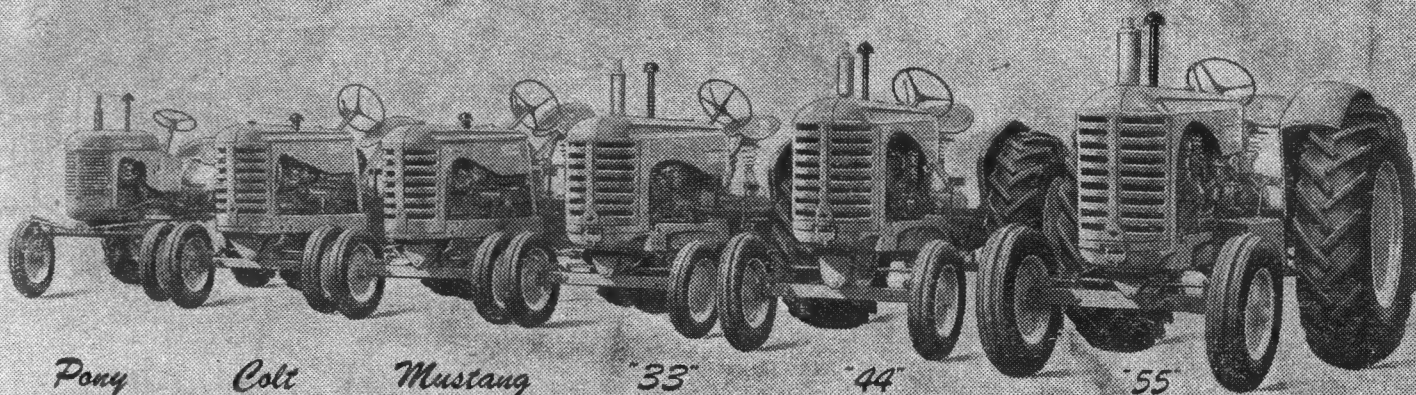


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(Above) "Remarkable!" says Mr. L. H. Campbell, of Campbell Bros., Avonlea, Sask., owners of a 43-h.p. "CAT" D4. He goes on to say:

"No other machine its size could do this kind of work." You'd say the same if you saw how he used it, with ditcher attachment, dredging sloughs.

(Below) Mr. G. B. Shuck of Rochfort Bridge, Alta., reports on his "CAT" D4:

"It has worked over 22,000 hours in the past 10 years, discing, seeding, and pulling four 16" plows. Average diesel fuel consumption is 1 3/4 gallons per hour. Steering and master clutch have never needed repairs. I put on one set of link assemblies and track rollers and they are still in A-1 condition."



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(Above) "You can't beat 'CAT' D2 economy!" asserts Mr. Albert Anderst of Hilda, Alta.:

"I just finished seeding 50 acres of oats with a 12' press drill on only 10 gallons of diesel fuel. That's 4c per acre! Gas tractor owners won't believe how little fuel a D2 uses!"

(Below) "Repairs? Not one in 5 years!" says Mr. Jerome Bechard, Lejord, Sask., of his "CAT" D4 purchased in 1947.

"What's more, I can seed and till 100 acres a day at a diesel fuel cost of less than 3c per acre! That kind of economy means bigger profits!"



(Above) Master Farmer Emil Cammaert of Rockyford, Alta., a constant "CAT" user since 1920 has this to say about his 32-h.p. D2:

"Working in 4th gear with a 15' disc harrow, the D2 enables me to seed about 80 acres a day. Economy? Yes, diesel fuel consumption of 21 gallons per 14-hour day is what I call economy! And," adds Mr. Cammaert, "our D2 was a 'life-saver' in the fall of '51 when wet conditions put operations at a standstill elsewhere!"

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